TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

TENNYSON.

I.

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
"Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns," he said;
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

II.

"Forward, the Light Brigade!"
Was there a man dismay'd?
Not tho' the soldier knew
Some one had blunder'd;
Their's not to make reply,
Their's not to reason why,
Their's but to do and die;
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

III.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon in front of them
Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
Boldly they rode and well,
Into the jaws of death,
Into the mouth of hell
Rode the six hundred.

IV.

Flash'd all their sabers bare,
Flash'd as they turn'd in air
Sabring the gunners there,
Charging an army, while
All the world wonder'd:
Plunged in the battery smoke
Right thro' the line they broke;
Cossack and Russian
Reel'd from the saber-stroke
Shatter'd and sunder'd;
Then they rode back, but not
Not the six hundred.

V.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon to behind them
Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
While horse and hero fell,
They that had fought so well
Came thro' the jaws of Death,
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of six hundred.

VI.

When can their glory fade?
O the wild charge they made!
All the world wonder'd.
Honor the charge they made,
Honor the Light Brigade,
Noble six hundred.

For the Blade.

SALOON MEN, READ!

BY J. M'DONAGLE.

Would liquor men look on and see
A vampire in their domicile,
And be constrained to let it be,
Against their judgment and their wills,
Provided it should thus intrude
To lap their wives' and children's blood?

Should a wild bear or wolf appear
Within their own domestic fold,
Would they not, each, have cause to fear
Their children would soon be enroll'd
Among its victims, and ne'er pause
Till free from its devouring jaws?

Should a huge anaconda make
Its lair within a free saloon,
The liquor man, for safety's sake,
Would try to have it banish'd soon—
Nor wait till this dread reptile should
Slay all his sons to feed its brood!

Why, then, will liquor men persist
In foisting on men what is worse,
And, late and early, all insist
On giving to sin what will curse
Themselves and offspring, and entail
On them that which makes millions wail?

Is it for paltry gain they throw
Considerate aside, and do
The very thing they all well know
They should for mercy's sake eschew,
And let reel rapine life and health
Of thousands, to increase their wealth?

If this be so, stop, men, and think,
To what your dreadful sin now tends,
And lay aside your fiery cup and drink,
And, if you can, make quick amends
For what your recklessness has cost
The souls that by your greed are lost!

Decatur, Ind.

For the Blade.

LOVE.

A. L. A.

The day comes, the day goes,
With all its cares-its toil and woes;
But love to-day is love for aye,
Though hearts be sad, or hearts be gay.

The Springtime comes, the Springtime goes,
And flowers, them young, now older grows;
But Love will own no time, no place,
She only adds new grace to grace,

The Summer comes, the Summer goes,
And with it fades the blushing rose,
But hearts, in love, unchanging be,
They only grow more true, more free.

The Winter comes, the Winter goes,
With chilling winds and frosty snows,
But love remains as warm, as true,
As when the skies were clear and blue.

So ages come, so ages go,
Remoulding men and all below,
But love retains its matchless worth—
The bliss of heaven, the joy of earth.
Holloway, Mich.

Our Story Teller.

MR. COSWAY'S MARRIAGE

BY WILKIE COLLINS,

Author of "The Woman in White," "No Name," "The Two Destinies," "The Moonstone," "The Law and the Lady," Etc., Etc.

I.

We should all have enjoyed our visit to Sir John's country house—but for Mr. Cosway.

And to make matters worse, it was not Mr. Cosway but we who were to blame. Our society repeated the old story of Adam and Eve, on a large scale. The women were the first sinners; and the men were demoralized by the women.

The bitterest enemy of Mr. Cosway could not have denied that he was a handsome, well-bred, unassuming man. No mystery of any sort attached to him. He had adopted the Navy as a profession—had grown weary of it after a few years' service—and now lived on the moderate income left to him, after the death of his parents. Out of this unpromising material the lively imaginations of the women built up a romance. The men only noticed that Mr. Cosway was rather silent and thoughtful, that he was not ready with his laugh; and that he had a fancy for taking long walks by himself. Harmless peculiarities, surely? And yet, they excited the curiosity of the women as signs of a mystery in Mr. Cosway's past life, in which some beloved object unknown must have played a chief part. When I asked my wife to explain what had led to this extraordinary conclusion, she answered with satirical emphasis, "*You* don't look below the surface; *we* do."

As a matter of course, the influence of the sex was tried, under every indirect and delicate form of approach, to induce Mr. Cosway to open his heart, and tell the tale of his sorrows. With the most perfect courtesy on that "surface" of which my wife had spoken—and with the most immovable obstinacy under it—he baffled curiosity, and kept his supposed secret to himself. The most beautiful girl in the house was, to my certain knowledge, ready to offer herself and her fortune as consolations, if this impenetrable bachelor would only have taken her into his confidence. He smiled sadly and changed the subject.

Defeated so far, the women accepted the next alternative.

One of the guests staying in the house was Mr. Cosway's intimate friends—formerly his brother-officer on board ship. This gentleman was now subjected to the delicately directed system of investigation which had failed with his friend. With the most unruffled composure he referred the ladies, one after another, to Mr. Cosway. His name was Stone. The ladies decided that his nature was worthy of his name.

The last resource now left to our wives, daughters, and sisters was to rouse the dormant interest of the men, and to trust to the confidential intercourse of the smoking-room for the enlightenment which they had failed to obtain by other means.

They wisely began with the men who, in these modern days, are most easily reached by female influence—the men of mature age. Now, at last, my wife condescended to tell me what she and her friends had seen under "the surface." In plain words, they had collected evidence by means of their maids, derived from the gossip in the servants' hall: and had then exercised their imaginations on the narrow field of discovery thus opened to them. The man that waited on Mr. Cosway had heard him sigh and grind his teeth in his sleep; and had caught him one morning, when he ought to have been shaving himself, kissing something which looked like a portrait in miniature. These mysterious circumstances and the conclusions to which they led, repeated with endless pertinacity, acquired a certain adventitious importance among us, due to the state of affairs in the house. The shooting was not good for much; the billiard table was under repair; and there were but two accomplished whist-players among the guests. In our idler moments, and on our showery days, we drifted into discussing the mystery of Mr. Cosway. The younger men, beginning by laughing at us, ended in catching the infection of our curiosity, for want of a nobler social epidemic in the house. Little by little, we became (I am ashamed to say) as eager as the women themselves to lead Mr. Cosway into making his confession. At a late sitting over our cigars, it was decided that one of us should inform this inoffensive gentleman that he was answerable for a state of nervous irritability among the guests, which it would be downright cruelty on his part to prolong. Thereupon, the inevitable question followed. Would any person, possessed of the necessary resources of polite circumlocution, volunteer to make this announcement on behalf of the rest? Nobody volunteering, we decided to select the victim by drawing lots. The lot fell upon me. On our next evening in the smoking-room, the disgrace of acknowledging to what extremities of ill-bred curiosity idleness and folly can lead persons holding the position of ladies and gentlemen, was to be mine.

I suffered under a sense of my responsibilities at intervals during the night; and, when we all met again in the morning, I brought a bad appetite with me to the breakfast table. As we left our room, my wife tried to compose my mind. "Don't worry yourself any more about it," she said; "leave it to luck." I received this childish advice in sardonic silence. Before another hour had passed, it became my conjugal duty (and privilege) to express my gratitude and to make my apologies. Luck not only relieved me from all apprehension of offending Mr. Cosway, but actually used my wife as its chosen instrument!

The newspapers came in before we had risen from table. Our host handed one of them to my wife, who sat on his right hand.

She first looked, it is needless to say, at the list of births, deaths, and marriages; and then she turned to the general news—the fires, accidents, fashionable departures, and so on. In a few minutes, she indignantly dropped the newspaper in her lap. "Here is another unfortunate man," she exclaimed, "sacrificed to the stupidity of women! If I had been in his place, I would have used my knowledge of swimming to save myself, and would have left the women to go to the bottom as they deserved!"

"A boat accident, I suppose?" said Sir John.

"Oh, yes—the old story. A gentleman takes two ladies out on the river. After a while they get fidgety, and feel an idiotic impulse to change places. The boat upsets as usual; the poor dear man tries to save them—and is drowned along with them for his pains. Shameful! shameful!"

"Are the names mentioned?"

"Yes. They are all strangers to me; I speak on principle." Asserting herself in those works, my wife handed the paper to Mr. Cosway, who happened to sit next to her. "When you were in the navy," she continued, "I dare say your life was put in jeopardy by taking women in boats. Read it yourself, and let it be a warning to you for the future."

Mr. Cosway looked at the narrative of the accident—and revealed the romantic mystery of his life by a burst of devout exclamation, expressed in these words:

"Thank God, my wife's drowned!"

II.

To declare we were all struck speechless, by discovering in this way that Mr. Cosway was a married man, is to say very little. The general impression appeared to be that he was mad. His neighbors at the table all drew back from him, with the one exception of his friend. Mr. Stone looked at the newspaper; pressed Mr. Cosway's hand in silent sympathy—and addressed himself to Sir John.

"Permit me to make my friend's apologies," he said, "until he is composed enough to act for himself. The circumstances are so extraordinary that I venture to think they excuse him. Will you allow us to speak to you privately?"

Our host with more apologies addressed to his visitors, opened the door which communicated with his study. Mr. Stone took Mr. Coswoy's arm, and led him out of the room. He noticed no one, spoke to no one—he moved mechanically, like a man walking in his sleep.

For nearly two hours, we were left to exercise our ingenuity in attempting to account for Mr. Cosway's wonderful out, burst of gratitude at the drowning of his wife, and Mr. Stone's mysterious defence of him. At the end of the long interval Sir John returned alone to the breakfast-room. Mr. Cosway and Mr. Stone had already taken their departure for London, with their host's entire approval.

"It is left to my discretion," Sir John proceeded, "to repeat to you what I have heard in the study." A general outcry interrupted the speaker. "Oh, pray let us hear it." Sir John smiled indulgently. "You shall hear it," he said, "on one condition—that you all consider yourselves bound in honor not to mention the true names and the real places, when you tell the story to others."

I cannot honestly say that the art of unfolding the intricacies of a narrative was one of the accomplishments possessed by the master of the house. It is no act of presumption on may part, if I here undertake to improve on our host's method of telling the story—using no other concealments than those which we all readily bound ourselves to observe. The events which preceded and followed Mr. Cosway's disastrous marriage resolve themselves, to my mind, into certain well-marked divisions. Following this arrangement, let me relate—

THE FIRST EPOCH IN MR. COSWAY'S LIFE.

The sailing of Her Majesty's ship "Albicore" was deferred by the severe illness of the Captain. A gentleman not possessed of political influence might, after the doctor's unpromising report of him, have been superseded by another commanding officer. In the present case, the Lords of the Admiralty showed themselves to be models of patience and sympathy. They kept the vessel in port, waiting the Captain's recovery.

Among the unimportant junior officers, not wanted on board under these circumstances, and favored accordingly by obtaining leave to wait for orders on shore, were two young men, aged respectfully 22 and 23 years, and known by the names of Cosway and Stone. The scene which now introduces them opens at a famous seaport on the south coast of England, and discloses the two young gentlemen at dinner in a private room at their inn.

"I think that last bottle of champagne was corked," Cosway remarked. "Let's try another. You're nearest the bell, Stone, ring."

Stone rang, under protest. He was the elder of the two by a year, and he set an example of discretion.

"I am afraid we are running up a terrible bill," he said. "We have been here more than three weeks——"

"And we have denied ourselves nothing," Cosway added. "We have lived like princes. Another bottle of champagne, waiter. We have our riding-horses and our carriage, and the best box at the theater, and such cigars as London itself could not produce. I call that making the most of life. Try the new bottle. Glorious drink, isn't it? Why doesn't my father have champagne at the dinner table?"

"Is your father a rich man, Cosway?"

"I should say not. He didn't give me anything like the money I expected when I said good by—and I rather think he warned me solemnly, at parting, to take the greatest care of it. 'There's not a farthing more for you,' he said, 'till your ship returns from the South American station. *Your* father is a clergyman, Stone."

"Well, what of that?"

"And some clergymen are rich."

"My father is not one of them, Cosway."

"Then let us say no more about him. Help yourself and pass the bottle."

Instead of adopting this suggestion, Stone rose with a very grave face, and once more rang the bell. "Ask the land lady to step up," he said, when the waiter appeared.

"What do you want with the landlady?" Cosway inquired.

"I want the bill."

The landlady—otherwise Mrs. Pounce—entered the room. She was short, and old, and fat, and painted, and a widow. Students of character, as revealed in the face, would have discovered malace and cunning in her bright little black eyes, and a bitter vindictive temper in the lines about her thin red lips. Incapable of such subtleties of analysis as these, the two young officers differed widely, nevertheless, in their opinions of Mrs. Pounce. Cosway's reckless sense of humor delighted in pretending to be in love with her. Stone took a dislike to her from the first. When his friend asked for the reason, he made a strangely obscure answer. "Do you remember that morning in the wood when you killed the snake?" he said. "That's my reason." Cosway made no further inquiries.

"Well, my young heroes," cried Mrs. Pounce (always loud, always cheerful, and always familiar with her guests), "what do you want with me now.

"Take a glass of champagne, my darling," said Cosway, "and let me try if I can get my arm round your waist. That's all I want with you."

The landlady passed this over without notice. Though she had spoken to both of them, her cunning little eyes rested on Stone from the moment when she appeared in the room. She knew by instinct the man who disliked her—and she waited deliberately for Stone to reply.

"We have been here some time," he said, "and we shall be obliged, ma'am, if you will let us have our bills."

Mrs. Pounce lifted her eyebrows with an expression of innocent surprise.

"Has the Captain got well, and must you go on board to-night?"

"Nothing of the sort," Cosway interposed. "We have no news of the Captain, and we are going to the theater to-night."

"But," persisted Stone, "we want, if you please, to have the bill."

"Certainly, sir," said Mrs. Pounce, with a sudden assumption of respect. "But we are very busy down stairs, and we hope you will not press us for it to-night?"

"Of course not!" cried Cosway.

Mrs. Pounce instantly left the room, without waiting for any further remark from Cosway's friend.

"I wish we had gone to some other house," said Stone. "You mark my words—that woman means to cheat us."

Cosway expressed his distrust from this opinion in the most amiable manner. He filled his friend's glass, and begged him not to say ill-natured things of Mrs. Pounce.

But Stone's usually smooth temper seemed to be ruffled; he insisted on his own view. "She's impudent and inquisitive, if she is not downright dishonest," he said. "What right had she to ask you where we lived when we were at home; and what our Christian names were; and which of us were oldest, you or I? Oh, yes—it's all very well to say she only showed a flattering interest in us! I suppose she showed a flattering interest in my affairs, when I woke a little earlier than usual, and caught her in my bedroom with my pocket-book in her hand. Do you believe she was going to lock it up for safety's sake? She knows how much money we have got as well as we know it ourselves. Every halfpenny we have will be in her pocket to-morrow. And a good thing, too—we shall be glad to leave the house."

Even this cogent reasoning failed in provoking Cosway to reply. He took Stone's hat, and handed it with the utmost politeness to his foreboding friend. "There's only one remedy for such a state of mind as yours," he said. "Come to the theater."

At 10 o'clock the next morning, Cosway found himself alone at the breakfast table. He was informed that Mr. Stone had gone out for a little walk, and would be back directly. Seating himself at the table, he perceived an envelope on his plate, which evidently inclosed the bill. He took up the envelope, considered a little, and put it back again unopened. At the same moment Stone burst into the room in a high state of excitement.

"News that will astonish you!" he cried. "The Captain arrived yesterday evening. His doctors say that the sea-voyage will complete his recovery. The Ship sails to-day—and we are ordered to report ourselves on board in an hour's time. Where's the bill?"

Cosway pointed to it. Stone took it out of the envelope.

It covered two sides of a prodigiously long sheet of paper. The sum-total was brightly decorated with lines in red ink. Stone looked at the total, and passed it in silence to Cosway. For once, even Cosway was prostrated. In dreadful stillness, the two young men produced their pocket-books, added up their joint stores of money, and compared the result with the bill. Their united resources amounted to a little over one-third of thier debt to the landlady of the inn.

The only alternative that presented itself was to send for Mrs. Pounce; to state the circumstances plainly, and to popose a compromise on the grand commercial basis of credit.

Mrs. Pounce presented herself superbly dressed in walking costume. She was going out? or she had just returned to the inn? Not a word escaped her; she waited gravely to hear what the gentlemen wanted. Cosway, presuming on his position as favorite, produced the contents of the two pocket-books, and revealed the melancholy truth.

"There is all the money we have," he concluded. "We hope you will not object to receive the balance in a bill at three months."

Mrs. Pounce answered with a stern composure of voice and manner entirely new in the experience of Cosway and Stone.

"I have paid ready money, gentlemen, for the hire of your horses and carriages," she said; "there are the receipts from the livery stables to vouch for me; I never accept bills unless I am quite sure beforehand that they will be honored. I defy you to find an overcharge in the account now rendered; and I expect you to pay it before you leave my house."

Stone looked at his watch. "In three-quarters of an hour," he said, "we must be on board."

Mrs. Pounce entirely agreed with him. "And if you are not on board," she remarked, "you will be tried by court-martial, and dismissed the service with your characters ruined for life."

"My dear creature, we haven't time to send home, and we know nobody in the town," pleaded Cosway. "For God's sake, take our watches and jewelry and our luggage—and let us go."

"I am not a pawnbroker," said the inflexible landlady. "You must either pay your lawful debt to me in honest money, or——"

She paused and looked at Cosway. Her fat face brightened—she smiled graciously for the first time.

Cosway stared at her in unconcerned perplexity. He helplessly repeated her last words: "We must either pay the bill," he said, "or—what?"

"Or," answered Mrs. Pounce, "one of you must marry ME."

Was she joking? Was she intoxicated? Was she out of her senses? Neither of the three; she was in perfect possession of herself; her explanation was a model of lucid and convincing arrangement of facts

"My position here has its drawbacks," she began. "I am a lone widow; I am known to have an excellent business, and to have saved money. The result is that I am pestered to death by a set of needy vagabonds who want to marry me. In this position, I am exposed to slanders and insults. Even if I didn't know that the men were after my money, there is not one of them whom I would venture to marry. He might turn out a tyrant, and beat me; or a drunkard and disgrace me; or a betting man, and ruin me. What I want, you see, for my own peace and protection, is to be able to declare myself married, and to produce the proof in the shape of a certificate. A born gentleman, with a character to lose, and so much younger in years than myself that he wouldn't think of living with me—there is the sort of husband who suits my book! I'm a reasonable woman, gentlemen. I would undertake to part with my husband at the church door—never to attempt to see him or write to him afterward—and only to show my certificate when necessary, without giving an explanations. Your secret would be quite safe in my keeping. I don't care a straw for either of you, so long as you answer my purpose. What do you say to paying my bill (one or the other of you) in this way? I am ready dressed for the altar; and the clergyman has notice at the church. My preference is for Mr. Cosway," proceeded this terrible woman with the cruelest irony, "because he has been so particular in his attention toward me. The license (which I provided on the chance a fortnight since) is made out in his name. Such is my weakness for Mr. Cosway. But that don't matter if Mr. Stone would like to take his place. He can hail by his friend's name. Oh, yes, he can! I have consulted my lawyer. So long as the bride and bridegroom agree to it, they may be married in any name they like, and it stands good. Look at your watch again, Mr. Stone. The church is in the next street. By my calculation you have got just five minutes to decide. I'm a punctual woman, my little dears; and I will be back to the moment."

She opened the door, paused, and returned to the room.

"I ought to have mentioned," she resumed, "that I shall make you a present of the bill receipted, on the conclusion of the ceremony. You will be taken to the ship in my own boat, with all your money in your pockets, and a hamper of good things for the mess. After that, I wash my hands of you. You may go to the devil your own way."

With this parting benediction she left them.

Caught in the landlady's trap, the two victims looked at each other in expressive silence. Without time enough to take legal advice; without friends on shore; without any claim on officers of their own standing in the ship, the prospect before them was literally limited to Marriage or Ruin. Stone made a proposal worthy of a hero.

"One of us must marry her," he said; "I'm ready to toss up for it."

Cosway matched him in generosity. "No," he answered. "It was I who brought you here; and I who led you into these infernal expenses. I ought to pay the penalty—and I will."

Before Stone could remonstrate, the five minutes expired. Punctual Mrs. Pounce appeared again in the doorway.

"Well?" she inquired. "which is to be—Cosway, or Stone?"

Cosway advanced as reckless as ever, and offered his arm.

"Now, then, Fatsides," he said, "come and be married."

In five-and-twenty minutes more, Mrs. Pounce had become Mrs. Cosway; and the two officers were on their way to the ship.

TO BE CONTINUED.

PIONEER LIFE.

An Instance of Absent-Mindedness—The Man Who Wanted to Thrash the Preacher—The Obstinate Darkey and the Dentist.

BY DR. SCOTT, OF LANCASTER, O., AUTHOR OF "PIONEER SKETCHES."

AN AMUSING INSTANCE OF ABSENT-MINDEDNESS.

An acquaintance of mine, many years ago, had occasion to go to mill. He had six bags of wheat and an equal number of bags of shelled corn sitting on the barn floor, ready to be loaded into the wagon. It was near harvest time and he intended to carry his wheat to the mill and have it ground to supply himself and his tenants with flour until the new crop came in. Accordingly, in the morning, after issuing his program of work for the day, he hitched his span of bays to the wagon and then deliberately lifted his six bags of wheat, one by one, and deliberately emptied their contents into the granary, and then throwing the empty sacks into the wagon, drove three miles down to the mill. The mill was thronged and the water low, and therefore his chances for getting grinding done speedily were slim. He however succeeded in obtaining the promise of the miller that he would grind one half of his grain that afternoon, out of turn, by offering special inducements; an he would wait for the grinding. Three hours later when the hopper was ready for his wheat, he went to bring in his sacks and was greatly astonished at finding only empty bags. He was wholly unable to account for the mystery. He supposed somebody had, of course, stolen the grain. But that was not possible, the miller and he both concluded; and then he thought he must have thrown the empty sacks into the wagon by mistake. But he would drive back and fetch the wheat, and thought he would return in time still have it ground before night.

He was back at the mill two hours before sundown, with the six sacks full of grain, and as the mill had stopped to gather head and wait for him a sack was at once brought and emptied into the hopper, and behold it was corn instead of wheat. The mystery was now complete, but the corn was now scooped from the hopper and returned to the bag, and the other five sacks having been found to contain corn also, there was nothing else to do but to drive back home, which he proceeded to do, all this time ignoring the six empty bags lying on the bottom of the wagon bed.

Exhausted, and hungry, and outraged with the day's luck, he went in and threw himself on his bed to think it over, but he could make nothing out of it. He called his wife, and requested her to send to the field for his man to come to the house, he wished to see him. John was soon on hand to receive his orders. He told him to take some empty bags, and drive over to neighbor E.'s and ask him to loan him 10 bushels of wheat until after harvest In the meantime Mr. C., before leaving his wagon, had lifted the six bags of corn from the wagon and returned them to their former place on the barn floor.

John lost no time in starting on his mission, as it was now nearly sun down, but not being able to find any empty sacks, he lifted four of the bags of corn and emptied their contents into the granery, which was in a dark corner and boarded up in front three or four feet, and was no little surprised on arriving at the barn of neighbor E. at finding in the wagon 10 empty bags instead of four, as he supposed. He got the wheat which was taken to the mill and duly made into flour, and things assumed something like regular order.

Harvest came and passed, and then it occurred to Mr. C. that he would send his corn to the mill and have it made into meal. He thereupon told John to go to the granary and fill up three bags with corn and carry them to the mill. But John soon returned to tell his employer that the corn had been turned in on a considerable quantity of wheat, and that it was utterly impossible to separate the grain, and he wanted to know if Mr. C. could tell how the wheat came to be there; but he could not.

The transactions—part of them—of the first day were rather guessed at than known, so far, at least, as the difference of the six sacks of wheat was concerned; but as all the circumstances of the case pointed to the truth, and as there was no other possible solution, the truth, as here given, was accepted by Mr. C.

THE REV. MR. B. AND HIS MAN.

A scene was enacted one morning at a private residence where I was stopping; that, regarding it in all its phases from beginning to end—the way it began and the way it wound up—and, considering the parties concerned, did certainly overtop anything in the way of scenes that has ever befallen, me, as much at I have seen of the world and its varied phases.

I was in attendance at a Methodist quarterly meeting in a village eight miles from where I lived. At that time it was customary [illegible] to attend [illegible] ings; and it was customary for the families that resided in the vicinity of the meeting to entertain everybody that came from a distance, until the meeting was over or as long as they chose to stay. Even non-professors, many of them, opened their houses. And thus it sometimes happened that during the continuance of a protracted religious meeting, especially if there was anything like a revival, little besides was attended to. But these good old days of brotherly love and fraternal relation have drifted back out of sight. The affair to which I allude took place in March, 1838.

With the family in which I was quartered, there were about one dozen guests, including the Presiding Elder of the District, and one of the circuit riders, the Rev. Mr. B. Mr. B. was a man above the medium stature and weight, and of powerful muscle and agility. He was positive, and of great administrative ability. He was among the most popular Methodist preachers then traveling.

The proprietor of the house was up an hour before day, and had the fires below all going, and his women folks were up preparing for an early breakfast, for the love feast was to be at eight o'clock. It was Monday morning. The guests were beginning to rise. There were four lodgers in the room I was in. The faintest dawn could just be discerned through the windows. Suddenly there came a loud and boisterous tapping on the front door. Close following upon this was heard loud and, as I thought, angry talking in the big room below. My toilet was about completed, and I hurried and went down with two of my room mates.

The caller was chafing and pacing the floor hurriedly. The proprietor had gone to call the Rev. B., whom the thoroughly angry man wanted to see, and who entered the room a moment or two after ourselves. The stranger confronted him, and asked if his name was B. "That is my name," said the preacher. "Well sir," said the excited man, "you insulted me in your sermon last night, and I have walked two miles to demand satisfaction. I have not slept since I left the church, and I will not rest until you apologize to my satisfaction; and if you don't, I am determined to thrash you, or take a thrashing myself." He was a coarse appearing man, and trouble seemed imminent. Mr. B. was calm and asked the man his name. The name was given, when the preacher proceeded to address him letirally as follows:

"My dear brother, I know nothing in the world about you. I never heard of you before, and have not known that there was such a man living. I drew the gospel bow at a venture, and blessed be God it has found its way to your heart. You are the man. My dear brother, you are under conviction, and don't know it. Glory to God. Let us pray," and down he fell on his knees. By this time nearly everybody about the house had collected in the big room. Everybody kneeled down, except the convicted man, who continued to walk the floor. The preacher made a powerful prayer. He asked God to deepen the conviction in the poor sinner's heart, and to show him, that without repentance and faith in the all atoning blood of Christ, he must be forever lost. The angry man was non plussed. Things had taken a strange turn. Many of those kneeling around him he recognized as friends.

The prayer closed with an earnest appeal to God that he would not suffer the sinner to depart until he was soundly converted and made happy in the love of God, and then the people all rose up and commenced to sing with great pathos the hymn, beginning, "Show Pity, Lord, O Lord Forgive," and when two stanzas had been sung, another prayer was made, and then, "He Dies, the Friend of Sinners Dies," and at the third kneeling the sinner was on his knees calling on God to have mercy on his poor soul. When the whole crowd started to the love feast, the penitent was supported between Brother B, and another man. The man's wife, who was a Methodist, had been sent for. She came and knelt beside her husband, and when I left for my home in the evening, he was shouting and praising God for having put it into his heart to come back that morning to whip Brother B.

A LUDICROUS SCENE IN MY OFFICE.

As the reader has probably already conjectured, I have been a practical dentist. More than half my life has been devoted to that calling, which has brought me into relation with persons of all ages, sexes and nationalities, under a great variety of phases, morals, mental and temperamental. I know of no vocation that I think presents a more favorable opportunity for the study of human nature in all its varied aspects. The dentist is brought into conference with his patients in almost every condition of life. He sees them in good or ill health; good or ill humor; in pain and ease; and in pleasant or unpleasant moods. His business also affords the opportunity of testing the moral and physical courage. The frivolous and absurd often come out when least intended. When one is worn with tooth-ache, and the equilibrium of the nervous system is unbalanced; or when sitting under more or less painful operations, a fine opportunity is afforded for the perception of the humane and refined feelings, or the want of them, because there are few of all the race who, under great mental or physical disturbance can disguise themselves. It is under afflictions and trials that our true selves is revealed and best understood. But no matter for all this, I have a true story of the rediculous to tell—one among hundreds of similar ones I have witnessed; and since my purpose is more to excite innocent mirth and laughter than to instruct, I will tell it at once.

There was a young colored man had the tooth-ache. He had been coming to my office off and on for a couple of weeks to have tooth ache drops applied, and always said that, if it ached again, he would have it taken out. But he was a coward, as most of his race are supposed to be; though after a very protracted experience I cannot say that I have found much difference in the races in this regard. The difference is in the individual. This fellow, however, annoyed me until my patience was exhausted, and I decided to rid myself of him summarily, and told him so in the morning. But in the afternoon he returned and said now he was going to have it out, though I did not believe him, and my resolution that that should be his last visit to my office was taken as soon as I saw his ebony face coming through the door; and it was his last.

I ordered him to get on the chair and let us be done with it at once, for I should fool away no more time with him. There were only the two of us in the office. He came up slowly and piteously, with the white of his eyes glistening; and I imagined I could almost hear his teeth chatter. But I was imperious, and at last he was in the chair, and I mounted the stool behind him, with my forceps in hand. I dared not attempt to lance the gums, for I knew that if I did, that would be as far with the matter as I would get. I wanted to get a grip on the tooth. He made a motion to tuck his head down, and I ordered him to leave the office as speedily as possible. He then straightened up his head and opened his mouth. I told him that if he caught my arm, or in any way interrupted me, I would break his head with the poker.

It was a molar, in the right side of the lower jaw, and my position was on the stool directly behind him. I guarded my left thumb with a napkin, and placing it on the points of the front teeth, grasped [illegible] my fingers [illegible] the jaw, and then seized the molar, with the forceps in my right hand. This hold once secured, I could have held an ox. But the moment I began to lighten on the tooth he commenced to bawl, and placing his feet against the window sill, he threw his whole strength into his powerful legs, and with one herculean surge overturned the operating chair backwards—a chair that weighed over 200 pounds, himself turning a complete summersault, and nigger and dentist landed on the floor in about the center of the room, and then the supremely ludicrous began.

I had him at a great disadvantage, so far as he was concerned, and my wrath was fully roused, and I intended never to let go my hold till the tooth was out or his jaw was off. I was stunned by the fall, and out of breath. He pounded the floor with his stoga boots and roared, but he could not rise. Presently I got on my knees and kept tugging and wrenching; but his motions followed mine, and I could accomplish nothing. In the meantime, the uproar became furious, and I abandoned all idea of reaching either his ears or his fears, and I was compelled to content myself with tugging away. At last my muscles began to fail, for he was a man of nearly twice my weight and strength. Just at this juncture heavy footsteps were heard rapidly ascending the stairs, and in a moment half a dozen men from the street rushed into the office just as the negro bawled murder, as well as he could get it out. Blood was issuing from his mouth, and was smeared all over his face. He turned his eyes imploringly on the men. I was seized, and an attempt made to tear me loose; but I kept my grip while I explained the situation as well as I could with my exhausted breath. As soon as it was understood, three or four stout men laid hold of the fellow and held him while I snatched the tooth out, when the darkey sprang to his feet and bolted for the head of the stairs. But when he reached the bottom, the door was blockaded by a crowd that had collected from the street. I was close upon his heels with the drawn poker, which seeing, he sprang from the portico that stood three feet above the pavement, and clearing the heads of the crowd, landed 10 feet from the door, and fled for his life up the street.

POSTOFFICE SECRETS.

A Rule of the Department as to Imparting Information.

"There is a law of the Postoffice Department," said Assistant Postmaster Woolfenden yesterday, "that requires absolute secrecy upon the part of employes as to the business of the office. If a stranger comes to inquire for a letter, or concerning letters sent, we can give him no information unless he is the party directly interested. It is the same in the money-order department. We are not authorized to make known amounts of moneys sent or received. In fact the employes cannot 'give away' any of the business secrets—and this order is of long standing."

"How does the rule affect letter-carriers?"

"It is the same as I have said concerning the other departments of the office. Order No. 42 applies directly to these, and sets forth that as carriers have special opportunity to get hold of information of a private character concerning persons on their routes they should rigidly guard themselves against repeating any of it, or in any way intimating that they have facts which would prove injurious to the person interested. And they are forbidden to give any information as to letters sent or received by persons on their routes, this latter provision going so far as to include even members of the same family, whether they do or do not live in the same house."

"Is the order obeyed literally?"

"No complaints have ever been heard, and the gentlemen on the force are such as would not violate the unwritten law of common honor, nor the strict injunctions of the department. This order to forget secrets that come in the way of business is enforced in banking establishments and no infractions are tolerated. The Postoffice Department is likewise emphatic in demanding that the rule shall be obeyed. —*Detroit Times.*

Humor.

THE BALLAD OF WILLIAM MORRISON.

[From advance sheets of the Congressional Record.]

His party's health was failing fast,
As through the Capitol there passed
A youth who caught the Speaker's eye
And then upraised the funny cry,
Horizontal Reduction!

His cheek was hard, his pluck was great
As one who rashly tackles Fate,
And like an able fog-horn rung
That queersome Democratic tongue,
Horizontal Reduction!

Republican across the aisle
Looked at him with a pitying smile,
Ahead the Autumn canvass shown
And from his lips escaped a groan,
Horizoneal Reduction!

"Try not the bill," wise Bourbons said
"Yours surely is no level head,
The pit you dig is deep and wide;"
And loud that clarion voice replied,
Horizontal Reduction!

"Oh stay," said Randall, "and recline
Thy head upon this fence of mine;"
A wink stood in his bright b ue eye,
But still he answered with a sigh,
Horizontal Reduction!

"Beware the wool men, one and all,
Beware Ohio's vote next Fall;"
This was the country's parting shot,
A voice replied in accents hot,
Horizontal Reduction!

On Tuesday when his brethren all
Responded to the roll's loud call,
They heard, as died his darling bill,
A voice remark, far down the hill,
Horizontal Reduction!

A statesman squirming on the ground
Half buried under votes was found,
Still grasping with a desperate grit
A banner with these words, to-wit,
Horizontal Reduction!

There in the cloak-room, well-a-day,
More mad than hare of March he lay,
And from the people far and near,
A voice fell like a two-edged sneer,
Horizontal Reduction!!!
—*N. Y. Tribune.*

She Twigged.

He called at the house and asked if she had any carpets to beat, adding that he had been in the business over 20 years.

"How much to beat the parlor carpet?" she asked.

"One dollar."

"Why, that's awful! There was a man here yesterday who offered to do the job for 50 cents."

"Exactly, madam, but how was he prepared?"

"He had a club in his hand."

"I presume so. He intended to take the carpet out on a vacant lot, didn't he?"

"Yes, sir. Our yard is too small, you know."

"Exactly. That is a tapestry Brussels carpet. It is badly worn. It has numerous holes in it. He would make a great show in getting it out and in there. Out on the lot he would give you away to every one who asked who the carpet belonged to. Is that the way to do a job of this sort?"

"How do you do it?"

"I take the carpet out through the alley. I wheel it home. I beat it in a yard surrounded by a high board fence, and while I am returning it, all nicely rolled up and covered with a cloth, if any one asks me what I have I reply that it is a velvet carpet for No. 224 Blank street. If no one asks me any questions I call at the houses on either side of you and ask if they have just ordered a new Wilton. They watch me and see me come in here. Madam, in the language of the Greek, do you twig?"

He was given the job.

Is It Late Repentance.

"My dear," said Mrs. Wilcox, *nee* Ella Wheeler, to her new husband last Monday morning, "do you want me to write a poem to-day while you are at the office?"

"Not much," replied Mr. Wilcox; "I want you to mend my other suit of clothes, and wrestle with that washtub for a couple of hours."

Then he left, and Mrs. Wilcox said:

"And such is the fruit of poems of passion."

And in a few minutes the ribald voices of the soapsuds could be heard singing in gleeful chorus.—*Washington Hatchet.*

Before The Wall Street Panic.

Bank Cashier—"Well, what do you want?"

Tramp—"Only a little matter o'business, sir."

Cashier—"Business, eh! What is it?"

Tramp—"I want to borrow a pen and ink and one o' your bank checks."

Cashier—"What for?"

Tramp—"I will make out a check on you for $50 and you certify to it, and I'll take it around the corner to a policy shop and if I win $200 I'll give you $100 for your trouble."

Cashier—"You will have to go to New York, then. We don't do business that way."—*Philadelphia Call.*

The Road to Riches.

One day a few weeks ago one of the richest men in Chicago was asked for a private interview by a stranger, who explained:

"You are very rich. You have had wonderful luck. Tell me what to speculate in that I may make money?"

"Never speculate at all," was the serious answer.

"But you have made money in railroad stocks, wheat, silver mines, canal stocks, etc."

"Not a dollar, young man! In fact, that's the way I have lost thousands."

"Why, then, how have you made your wealth?"

"By inventing a spring bed and patenting a boot jack. Let all speculation alone, and turn your attention to the solid wants of the people."—*Wall Street News.*

A Little Previous.

They were talking across the lunch table about a prominent Eastern man who married his cook within six months after his wife's death, and one of the gentlemen observed:

"If that is the case, I want nothing more to do with him."

"But he was pinched, you know," protested a second.

"How?"

"Why, he had been cleaned out in a deal in oil, while the cook had made $50,000 in wheat."

"O—ah—I see. That alters the case. One must protect his commercial integrity even if he marries his washwoman with the crape on his hat. Still, I should have advised him to put up a reasonable margin on pork, and held the cook off for three months longer."—*Wall Street News.*

Varnishing Day.

Artist—"Will you be kind enough to lend me

Written Expressly for the BLADE.

NASBY IN THE SOUTH

From New Orleans to Vicksburg—The Steamer "Natchez" and Capt. Tom Leathers—The Passengers—The River.

XVI.

UP THE RIVER.

"Steamer Natchez — Capt. Thomas Leathers!" That has a familiar sound. What better name could there be for a Mississippi steamer than "Natchez!" and how could a "Natchez" be properly commanded except by a Captain Tom Leathers? Each would be impossible without the other.

The steamer "Natchez" is one of the few old-fashioned monsters, yet upon the river, and he is fortunate who makes a trip upon her. A few short years and the "Natchez" will be burnt, or snagged, or some other calamity will happen her, and Captain Tom Leathers will immediately take to his bed and die of grief thereat. It will never pay to build more such steamers, and as for Captain Tom Leathers, such men are not being born any more. They belong to a by-gone race; he is well nigh the last of them, and the breed is not being perpetuated.

The Mississippi steamers—the large side-wheelers, are immense structures. There is a very shallow hold, an immense boiler deck on which the engines and boilers stand exposed to view, and not hidden away in the bowels of the monster as is the case with steam vessels on the ocean or the great lakes, and then another deck on which are ranged the state-rooms, an immense saloon running completely through the center, and that surmounted by the pilot house, where the pilot, who is in all matters pertaining to the running of the vessel, the king, stands in his glory. The captain command of everything below the pilot-house, but the pilot is entirely independent of him in all things pertaining to the sailing of the craft.

THE BOATS.

The river boats are invariably flat-bottomed for two important reasons. First, flat-bottomed boats have more freight carrying capacity, and, second, they draw less water. When they get into the Upper Mississippi, and Ohio they need at some seasons to draw very little water, and some of them draw very little indeed. It was the boast of one Captain that he could avoid bends by running his boat across meadows if there were dew on the grass. But he was an exaggerator. There must be water. Dew will not do.

Two immense gang-ways, operated by steam are hung at the bow, jutting outward, in opposite directions, and when a landing is to be effected the steamer's nose is run into the bank, the great gang-way, or landing stage is lowered so that one end rests upon the bank, and there you are.

THE OFFICERS.

The Captain of a steamer of this class is always a large bodied man, and to be representative should have immense legs, slightly bowed. His name should always be Thomas, so that his familiars may address him as Cap'n Tom. He must have a florid face, must be liberally endowed in the way of general profanity in all matters in which the crew are concerned, but must be urbane, polite and gentlemanly, even courtly, especially when in the presence of ladies. His politeness, however, be clothed with a rough and ready gruffness as becomes one who, in all sorts of weather to go through, and whose life is spent over high-pressure boilers, and is always threatened by snags, sawyers, and other perils. He must be a compound of urbanity and stretchess. When on duty he must be entirely unapproachable by any one, but when everything is right, and he saunters into the cabin, he must be the most delightfully rough old fellow in the world. However, even in his moments of relaxation, he must preserve his dignity, as becomes one upon whose broad shoulders rests the cares of an empire. His boat is an empire if it be a small one.

The mate must be a very stout, sturdy, red-faced man, whose principal business is to threaten the negro roustabouts on shore, and deck-hands when on the water, with a stout stick, and swear at them as often and as vigorously as possible. In the matter of profanity he is equalled by few and excelled by none. No matter how well the negros work, there is a running stream of objurgations at their slowness and laziness; no matter how skillfully the mate or left the freight, it is never done quickly or well enough, and their eyes and souls are being perpetually consigned to the place of torment especially reserved for the wicked.

What is curious about this is the negros don't seem to mind it at all. They evidently suppose that the mate is employed to do it—a theme, and that it is just as much his part of the business as swearing under the loads they bear is theirs. As sailors tug at ropes to the rythm of a song so the deck hands toil to the measured cadences of the mate's profanity, and one seems to be as essential as the other.

THE START.

The steamer loaded and the advertised hour for departure being gone something like an hour, the great boat backs out of her place in the stream and stems the rapidly-flowing current of the river. For a mile or two there is City on either bank, but that passed, there is nothing to be seen but a wide waste of water, kept, to some extent, in place by low banks of soft lands, fringed with growths of soft timber. The river at any point may be a mile wide, or 15, according to the stage of water, and its bends and turns are so irregular that you frequently strike it so that you seem to be in the center of a vast lake instead of a river.

While the boat is backing out and getting into the stream, the passengers are very busy. The lady passengers are arranging their state-rooms and getting things ship-shape and comfortable for the two days and nights they are to be on board, and the male passengers are mostly engaged in "taking sathin" at the bar which is on every boat, big and little, that carries passengers. They have as a rule been similarly employed all day, bidding farewell to their friends in New Orleans. The gentleman of New Orleans always receives his friend with a drink, and parts with him the same way. A friendly drink in New Orleans means a great many of them, just as many as the time will admit of, and with a pressing and really earnest insistance upon putting off your departure a week or so, so that fare well drinks may continue to a satisfactory ending.

These boats are the most comfortable vessels that float. The great saloon running its entire length is a marvel of splendor. It will not do to say much, as a rule, about taste, for in decorating these boats the principal idea seems to be to see how much of color can possibly be got into the space. The walls are painted and gilded in the most gorgeous style, the windows are of stained glass, pictorially ornamented, Indian and hunting scenes being the favorite subjects. And the pride of each Captain is that is boat shall outshine, in this particular, every other boat on the river. Give him the handsomest saloon, and the best speed, and he is the happiest man in the world.

The state-rooms are very large and very commodious. There are beds in the rooms really comfortable, there are wash stands and all other toilet requisites, as convenient as in a room in a hotel, and as the rooms all open out upon the water, they are as comfortable as is possible.

The table is always good, no matter how sparse the patronage, and the meals are served in as good style as when the river was the only medium of communication between the North and South. The waiters are all negros, as a matter of course, and they are the same obsequious, quarter-hunting race of men that negros always are when they don the waiter's jacket.

The passenger list is alike, every trip. There is on board an occasional commercial traveler, but not many. The commercial traveler has not the time to travel by boat, for it is too slow. It was all well enough when there was nothing faster. However, there were several on the Natchez of the regulation type. They all wore flashy neck-ties, sham jewelry, one contenting himself with a simple moustache, the others full-bearded, dressed each according to his notion of what became him best, and all of them particular in the matter of slippers, brushes, etc. They were very full of talk of trade and almost everything else, and each proceeded as soon as the boat left the City to select the especial woman whom he decided to captivate. Those we had were impudent, pert and conceited, and each succeeded in making himself obnoxious within an hour of the departure of the boat.

There is a wide difference in commercial travelers. There are those who are gentlemen, and who do not imagine every woman he meets when traveling is necessarily fool enough to permit his impudent advances, but too many of them make this sort of thing a part of their business.

The commercial traveler of this class seldom succeeds in concealing his identity. He might as well wear a distinctive uniform. His style of dress proclaims the man, and should that fail, should he happen to dress as other men do, his manner betrays him. He gives his orders at table in a loud imperious tone, as though he owned the boat and was not afraid to have people know it. He addresses waiters by their given names abbreviated, and is at once imperious and patronizing. He worries the life out of clerks in the matter of rooms, always insisting that the one assigned him is not good enough, and he always has a stock of stories of various degrees of indecency, the distinguishing quality being always, an entire absence of pith or point. But he enjoys himself exceedingly. He does not know that he is an ass, and takes great comfort in himself. Traveled men and women sigh when he appears, and there is a feeling of relief when one of them leaves the boat.

There was on the boat, several old-fashioned lawyers who could have returned to their homes by rail in one-fourth of the time, but they would as soon think of committing perjury as to take any other route to or from New Orleans than by water. They traveled this way from the time they commenced traveling at all, and they are used to it. The know every boat upon the river, they know all the captains by name, and they have their pet boats and their pet captains upon which and with whom they travel whenever it is possible, and they feel just as much at home on one of their boats as they do in their own domiciles.

Excelling these in number are the planters from up the river who have been in New Orleans selling their products and buying supplies. They have on board a dozen or more mules each, a stock of bacon and other food supplies, and a large lot of all sorts of necessaries which their hands consume. For be it known these planters supply their negro help with everything they use, getting their pay when the "crap" is harvested and sold. They are not peculiarly grasping—they generally manage to get all there is. They might bring the negro in debt, if they so elected, but they treat him generously.

The passenger list, after these always present examples, which give the boat character, is made up of a miscellaneous lot of people, embracing all grades and professions, from divinity down to horse-doctoring.

There are invariably a very large assortment of negros as deck passengers, for if the negro can't get employment as a deck-hand, he will travel somehow, and so he manages to find the wherewith to pay his fare, and he enjoys the trip, sleeping under the boilers if it be cold, or near the guards if warm, as the most luxuriously furnished cabin passenger.

They purchase what little food they need of the Steward, who thus finds a market for his broken victuals, and as for sleep there is no trouble about that. They sleep well anywhere under the most discouraging circumstances.

THE GREAT AMERICAN GAME.

Poker is played upon the boats now as much as ever, though the game has been shorn of its fair proportions. Time was when planters, rolling in wealth, in the days when a field hand was worth from $1,000 to $1,500, and a handsome octoroon would bring any price, that enormous games were played on these boats. Professional gamblers traveled up and down the river seeking whom they might devour. Heavy games were played in those days. Thousands changed hands upon a single deal, and property of all kinds passed over the green cloth. The planter who had been in New Orleans purchasing negros bet them when his money run short, and jewelry, goods and even plantations changed hands.

It is related that a stranger saw a remarkably fine looking quadroon, leaning over the rail.

"To whom do you belong?" he asked.

"I dun no, yit sah. Massa is at a game and hez jist filled a flush. Tother feller hez two pah, and outwell I know whedder he fills, it is mity onsartin who I blongs to."

No negro knew to whom he belonged till after his master left the boat.

The game played now is not large. The stake at the beginning is seldom more than 25 cents, and betting is, as a rule, limited to $2.50, though sometimes it runs higher. But the game is much lower than formerly. The planter may practically own the negro, he certainly does his labor, but he cannot sell him as he formerly did. He has no interest in the increase, and that very important source of revenue is cut off.

The game commences immediately after breakfast, and continues till lunch, is resumed as soon after lunch as the players can get to the tables, and progresses till dinner, and then after dinner till they are exhausted and quit from sheer exhaustion. Two and three in the morning is the regular hour for quitting.

Of course there is a regular stream of liquors flowing, it requiring at least one waiter to every table.

After the first day out, some one of the planters leave the boat at every landing. They get together the negros they have hired in New Orleans, the mules they have purchased are in readiness, and their merchandise is rolled to the guards on the boiler deck. Away ahead on the bank stands a group, and, as the boat nears the point, handkerchiefs are waved and various signals are made from the expectant wife and children whose husband and father is returning to them. Possibly if the wife knew just how her leige lord has been spending his time while abroad she might be at the landing, but it would be a club she would wave instead of a handkerchief. But she does not, and perhaps it is well that she does not.

The mules are gotten off the boat with much profanity, the merchandise likewise, the gang-plank is hoisted in, and the Captain, on the bow, bids good-bye to his late passenger, a new man takes the vacant place at the poker-table, and the boat steams away to another landing.

THE RIVER

is a totally unreasoning and eccentric body of water. It obeys no laws and recognizes no rights. The banks are composed of soft, alluvial soil, which water consumes with great rapidity. A current darts at a point in the bank, and begins to eat it. Let an impression be made in the bank ever so little, and that section of country is doomed. The water hurls itself against the soft bank, and you see it melt away before your eyes. A depression is made in one shore, the water leaves the other, and a cut is made destroying the one side and leaving the other, from which the water has receded, a wild waste of gravely loam, in which trees immediately take root and grow, with surprising rapidity. Old river men point out to you where plantations of 3,000 acres have been eaten up completely, the Captain informs you that within his time he has sailed his boat over ground now thickly grown with trees 15 miles away, and he doesn't lie. You see a planter's house with the village for the negros, standing close upon the bank, and you notice the ground is going away so many inches a day. "Johnson's house will go in a week more," is the remark, and it is true. Six weeks before the hour was inland a quarter of a mile, but the hungry current has devoured the ground intervening, and is marching upon the doomed house which is as certain of being engulfed as fate.

The river goes wherever it chooses, for there is nothing to prevent it. The levees are puny in comparison with the mighty volume of water, and as there is no regular system, they afford very little protection. A crevasse is liable to form at any time when the water is high and the overflow covers miles and miles, destroying everything in the way of the current. New channels are being constantly formed, and old ones abandoned. A planter goes to bed rich in his productive acres, and rises in the morning to find that the current has changed and is attacking him, and he knows his doom. Nothing earthly can avert it, and he sees his acres melt into the remorseless river, and he is powerless to prevent it. The earth is washed away from the roots of great trees and they fall into the river, houses and structures of all kinds follow the trees, and in a short time he has no land. Capricious nature reduces him to poverty.

The country is very far from interesting all the way up. There is nothing but a succession of low-lying banks, fringed with cottonwood trees, and the water under you yellow with mud. It is cottonwood banks and yellow water, which is as monotonous as anything the eye ever rests upon. The monotony is broken at the landings, for a boat on its arrival is greeted by the entire population for miles around, and there is much bustle for a few minutes, but on the whole the voyage from New Orleans to Vicksburg is dreary and unprofitable. However, the boats are elegant, the Captain and officers delightful men, and the company is as pleasant as could be desired. The Captain did not make the river, or the shores, otherwise he doubtless would have had it like the Rhine or Hudson. However, every one should make the voyage, for in a very few years it will be impossible.

Miscellany.

A CURIOUS PETITION.

What the French Nobility Considered Their Privileges in Days Gone By.

A curious "Petition of the Dukes and Duchesses to His Royal Highness, the Duke of Orleans, Regent," reads as follows:

"Monseigneur: So little respect is paid to us in public (*dans le monde*) that it is necessary we should have an express law enacted to replace us in our rights and privileges, with regard to the people, the inferior nobility and the clergy. Who can be ignorant that the clergy are only allowed to be anything in the State, but because a certain number of Peers have not disdained the titles of Bishops and Archbishop? It is necessary that a Bishop at least, should be the person to administer the sacrament to us. We alone have the right to carry cushions (to kneil upon, *carreaux*) to church. It is our privilege to receive the sacred bread before any one else, no matter who. If we go to a convential church, we must be waited for at least half an hour, whenever we should happen to be detained. In the streets all the other nobility must give the right hand side (*e haut du pave*) to a peer, whether that peer be in a carriage or on horseback; and as to the coacher of people of the commonality (*gens de la roture*), they must be obliged to draw up as we pass, however inconvenient it may happen to be.

"A peer and peeress occupy, as a matter of course, the back seat of the carriage; indeed, it is necessary that the law should restrain them from giving up their places, if moved to it by politeness or natural modesty. At table their healths should be drunk before those of the master and mistress of the house. At the theater they are to occupy the best boxes, and if these are filled on their arrival, those who are sitting there must immediately withdraw; any other arrangement, Monseigneur, would neither be just nor endurable. A peer has no occasion for fighting a duel with a private nobleman, even if it should happen that he has been well beaten by him.

"No one can pretend to hold any place until it has been refused by the peers, the peers being so completely above the people that they really are not called upon to recognize their existence. No workman or mechanic should be allowed to compel them by process of law to pay their debts. This sort of persons ought only to give them a polite intimation of the fact of their indebtedness, and the peers will satisfy them, if they think proper to do so.

"Finally, Monseigneur, on the same principle that a nobleman has not the right to draw his sword upon a Duke, so the servants of noblemen cannot force those of Dukes to make use of their fists in self-defense; and the latter should rather allow themselves to be thoroly thrashed (*se laisserent plutot rouer de coups*) than compromise the honor which they enjoy of being in the service of their masters."

One would think that this "document" was the production of a joker who wished to raise a laugh against the pretensions of the "Dues et Pairs," but no such thing; it is a veritable State paper, taken from Box K of the Archives of France, in Paris, and was so extracted in the last year of the reign of Louis Philippe.

ABUSING THE MADONNA.

The Curious Way in Which Italian Peasants Tried to Get Rain for Their Crops.

The long drouth that has prevailed in Southern Italy was beginning to work even worse effects on the minds of the country people than on the crops themselves. Irascible and excitable enough at best, such niggardly treatment at the hands of the heavenly powers was fast exciting a revolutionary fury that boded mischief. Of the wrathful temper growing ripe, judge from the following incident. A lady who has just come here from Sicily told me that in a Village near Taormina, where she was staying, the peasants, in their despair, took out of the sacristy an old and rather dilapidated image of the Virgin and had it hand somely regilt, as showing a disposition on their part to do the handsome thing by her, and so make sure of her help. Then, forming a procession, men, women and children went out to a neighboring hill, the priests bearing the sacred image under a canopy, and spent several hours in loud outcries for rain. The position was a favorable one for the blessed Lady to see just what the condition of affairs was throughout the whole parched and gaping surrounding country, and to rob her of every excuse that she had been shut up in the sacristy and knew nothing about it. Then, the service over, all marched back to their homes, and the venerable image was reverentially restored to its place.

The first day followed and still no rain, then a second, then a third. This was too much for human patience, and when the fourth day came, dry and arid as before, the popular fury broke loose. Storming the sacristy, the cruel image was torn down, a rope tied around its neck, and then dragged for two hours through every dirty street of the Village, the children hooting, the dogs barking, and the men and women heaping blows and imprecations on it. As a final mark of hatred, a swampy place was sought out in which a little water remained, and into this was thrown the hard-hearted and ungrateful Lady. All were determined on one point—namely: to give her a soak, even if she would not give them one in turn, and let the heavenly powers understand, so far as kicks and curses would express it, just what the inhabitants of that Village thought of them. Strange enough, the day after this outbreak of fury rain actually fell. Then an equal reaction towards remorse set in. The image was reverentially taken out of the ditch, money raised to repair and regild it, and a service of thanksgiving offered for its celestial aid.—*Rome Letter in Boston Herald.*

PERSONS AND THINGS.

A California man is making maple sugar from box elder trees. It is said to be fully equal to that made in Chicago from Indian corn.

Sleep may knit the raveled sleeve of care, but it absolutely refuses to darn holes in socks.—*Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.*

It ain' what a man knows er 'bout hiss'lf dat makes him feel proud. It's whut he 'magines udder people thinks o' him.—*Arkansas Traveler.*

It seems that a woman in this City recently advertised for a governess for her children "who will be like-minded with Christ, and take her meals in the kitchen.—*New York Tribune.*

Englishmen own more acres of land in America than they own in Ireland, but we are not qute enough worked up over it to go into the dynamite business yet.—*Lowell Citizen.*

"Mr. Highwater, how is it I fiud no cream on your milk?" Milkman—"Well, mum, I expect the cows are holding it back for strawberry time."—*Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Verdi is an impressive looking old man with snow white hair and mustache. His spirits and health have been failing ever since the death of Wagner, which affected him deeply.

In some parts of Africa brides on their wedding day have their front teeth extracted and their finger nails cut very close. There is no such society for the protection of husbands in this country.—*Philadelphia Call.*

The Hartford *Post* says: "It was a lurid sky that fooled the chickens to roost so early last evening." Fooling Hartford chickens is pretty small business for the sky to be in.—*New York Graphic.*

A New York couple who are to be married in May, will make their wedding tour in a canoe, evidently believing that in this manner they will acquire more canoe-bial bliss than usually falls to the lot of married people.—*Norristown Herald.*

An old lady from the country goes for the first time to the opera. After a few solos the troupe all sing together. "Ah!" remarks the old lady, "they don't care now that they have got our money. See! all singing together so that they may get through sooner."—*Paris Figaro.*

A Down East jury had to be provided with a dozen copies of "David Copperfield" recently, in order to estimate, in a libel suit, the amount of damages the plaintiff had sustained in being compared to Uriah Heep.

"Ma, are all the Presidential candidates musicians?" asked Tommy. "Not that I know of," replied his mother, "why do you ask?" "Oh, because I heard pa say they all had organs," was the response.—*Boston Times.*

President Arthur once taught school in an interior town in New York and boarded with a private family. Afterward Gen. Garfield taught the same school, boarded with the same family, and occupied the very same room.

Edwin Arnold is said to have written the most of the "Light of Asia" upon his cuffs. Tom Hood might have saved a good deal of paper if he had thought of something similar when he was writing "The Song of a Shirt."—*Boston Budget.*

The widely circulated Northern report that Creole Cable is personally unpopular in the Creole City is now emphatically denied by the New Orleans *Picayune*, which says Mr. Cable's friends and admirers in his own City are too numerous to mention.

"You are very late sending your evening mate out," said the editor to his daughter when he came home at 2 in the morning and met a timid, shrinking young man between the front door and the gate.

"Not at all," answered the thoughtful girl, "Charles Henry is now a morning edition."—*Middletown Transcript.*

The Spanish Government recently arrested the manager of a newspaper in Madrid for publishing a seditious article. The manager laughed at his slaves and went home on bail. In a few days the Government discovered that the offensive article was an extract from Macaulay's History, and the newspaper man was let out.

A scientist asserts that a bee can only sting once in two minutes. We hope no one will endeavor to change this law of nature on our account. A bee that can't put enough ambition into a man at one serenade to last him two minutes isn't fit to be in business, and ought to retire and give some of his friends a show.—*Yonkers Gazette.*

Mr. John Bright, whether by whim or ignorance, is always represented by the pictorial caricaturists as dressed in Quaker costume and with a single eye-glass in his eye. He dresses in an ordinarily cut black frock coat and waistcoat and dark tweed trousers. He wears a plain gold watch-chain, and carries a pair of double eye-glasses, used only for reading.

"May I take a kiss instead of my fee?" asked a young physician of a pretty patient. "Is that in the prescription?" she asked coyly.

"Yes," he replied, puckering up his lips and drawing closer.

"All right," was the reply; "send it to the druggist and have it made up with the rest of the medicine."—*Burlington Press Press.*

A writer in the Chicago *Herald*, speaking of "beauties," says: "I never saw a beautiful woman yet who did not leave the impression on my mind that there was probably in the next street some poor girl washing dishes, who, if equally well clad, would look equally beautiful." We never see a beautiful woman that we do not reflect that in a few years more she will look just as her mother does now. It has kept us from making fools of ourselves many a time.—*Philadelphia Call.*

"Yes," said the country store philosopher as he moved from an empty soap box to a nail keg, so as not to be so contiguous to a bundle of codfish; "yes, I have noticed that men who marry for love generally lead happy lives, and those who marry for money usually have a large stock of misery constantly on hand. Now I married for money, and to this day it hurts my pride to think about it. I might forgive myself for this one careless and unpraiseworthy act of my life, but I married for money and didn't get it."—*Middletown Transcript.*

In 1846 Sir Michael Costa had some differences with Manager Lumley, then of Her Majesty's Opera, London, which ended in his resigning his conductor's baton. Mario, Grisi, Persiani and Tamberlik sided with him and resigned their places also. This brought Lumley face to face with ruin. Lablache of all his great artists alone standing by him. "What shall I do?" he cried. "I'll tell you," said the faithful Lablache; there is a most extraordinary young girl in Sweden, with a voice like a nightingale. Bring her over and the game is yours. Lumley was drowning, and he caught at this, though it seemed a mere straw. He engaged the girl, whose name was Jenny Lind, and the sequel is historical.

FOR THE LADIES.

Clara Schumann has been before the public 56 years.

Onida is now spoken of as "Old Miss Louise de la Ramee."

Miss Ellen Terry, it is said, has acquired a slight, but quite perceptible American accent.

Mrs. Deal, of Colfax, La., has two cub otters about the size of an ordinary house cat. They are as tame as kittens and twice as playful.

Austrian brides are gllowed 12 dozen stockings. Chicago brides, if their parents are very rich, can have two pairs.—*Burlington Free Press.*

Mrs. Sen. Pendleton has purchased a pew in St. John's Episcopal Church, the Church which Pres. Arthur attends in Washington, paying therefor $250.

Philadelphia is very proud of a young native, Miss Mattie L. Megee, stil studying in Paris, but who has been invited to sing soprano solo parts at the next Birmingham Festival.

Plumpness in girls is no longer the fashion. A plump girl never could sit down as gracefully on a skating rink floor as a slim, ethereal creature with a jumbo bustle.—*Burlington Free Press.*

Miss Hu King Eng is a picturesque visitor at the sessions of the Philadelphia Methodist Conference. She is a Chinese lady, 18 years of age, and is to go back to her country as a medical missionary.

"I wouldn't be in your shoes for a good deal," said one high school girl to another. "I wouldn't have you in them, either," was the tart reply; "you'd stretch 'm all out of shape!"—*Burlington Free Press.*

The young ladies of Augusta, Me., chew $2,000 worth of gum a year. No wonder the women of Maine are said to have more jaw power than any other women in the world.—*Burlington Free Press.*

"A bachelor is a man who has lost the opportunity of making some woman miserable." "A woman's first right is the right to a husband, even if she has to support him." Both these gems of thought are going the rounds, credited to Lillie Devereux Blake.

The Wagner Concerts in Boston were followed by a baby show. A lover of Wagnerian music entered the latter one day just as a couple of dozen infants were bowling dismally, and turning to the door-tender he said, with an air of surprise: "Why, I was not aware that another series of Wagner Concerts had begun!"—*Norristown Herald.*

SAVED BY A BICYCLIST.

Overhauling a Railway Train—How a Young Telegraph Operator Prevented a Terrible Railway Accident.

"You think me rather young for such a responsible position? Well, perhaps so, for I am nothing more than a boy, being less than 20 years of age. But what think you of this white hair which I have had for four years? It looks strange to one unaware of its origin, and when I call to mind the circumstances that caused it I only wonder that I am alive to-day."

The speaker, a mere child in appearance save for his white hair, stood with his right index finger and thumb grasping the key of a telegraph instrument which had just ticked off to him an account of a terrible railroad accident. Referring to it he said:

"I have had some trying experiences in my life as an operator. Four years ago I was telegraph operator at a small country station on a southwestern railroad. I had little to do, the dispatches sent and received not averaging more than two a day, and those confined almost to railroad matters. To enable me to leave the office at will I had attached a large tin cup to the sounder of my instrument so I could hear my call from any part of the Village. When the south-bound train arrived at noon one Saturday, I hurriedly communicated with the conductor, and learning that he had nothing to send, I prepared to quit my office for the afternoon, as no other train was due until 7 o'clock. Locking the door I went away, leaving the train standing at the depot, hot boxes detaining it longer than usual. Luckily I did not go beyond ear shot of my instrument, repairing to a field near by to witness a base ball game. I frequently left the office for hours, but always kept within hearing distance, the tin-cup sounder enabling me to distinguish my call several hundred feet away. Somehow I had misgivings on this occasion. I had an indefinable dread of some impending trouble. I was so ill at ease that I took little interest in the game. I kept my ears open, expecting, for some reason I will not attempt to explain, to be called to the office. Before I had been absent 10 minutes, and while the train still stood at the depot, I heard my familiar call repeated in what seemed to me unusually rapid succession. Instead of walking leisurely to the office, as was my wont, I ran to the office as fast as I could and heard as I entered: 'Hold No. 4 at your station until special going north passes.'

"Involuntarily I glanced out of the window, and saw the train I was ordered to hold disappearing around a curve a short distance away. I was not told at what time the special left the station south, which was only 10 miles away, and I saw in my mind's eye the two trains rapidly approaching each other, quickly followed by a crash, screams of pain and flying debris. Suddenly I remembered, while tearing my hair and cursing my negligence, that No. 4 had to stop at a woodyard two miles down the road to take on fuel. That would be a matter of five minutes, and if means of conveyance were at hand I might overtake it and avert a disaster. My first thought was a hand car, my second a horse, but I did not know if the first was at the station, or the second was to be had in the Village. Rushing out of the office I stumbled over my bicycle. Without a moment's thought I shoved it out of the door before me and was on it in less time than it takes to count 10. In my odd moments I had practiced and become quite an expert bicyclist. The country road paralled the railroad for several miles and the former was down grade the entire distance. I put my whole strength into the effort of propelling the machine, and had the satisfaction of attaining a speed I had never accomplished before. My hat blew off and my coat was doffed through fear that it might retard my speed. I got within 50 yards of the now stationary train when the engine whistle blew and the train started up. I redoubled my efforts and came alongside the last car just as the train was getting under full headway. With a falling side motion I threw my wheel against the side of the car just forward of the platform, and grasped the hand rail as it came in reach, at the same time letting go my hold on the bicycle. I caught the bell-cord and gave it one vigorous pull, and as the train came to a halt I gave the cord three jerks, the signal to back, and fainted. The conductor found me where I had fallen. Suspecting something wrong, he permitted the train to back to the station, getting there just as the special, loaded with the directors of the road and their families swung around the curve into the station. I had brain fever, and came near dying, not regaining my reasoning faculties for five weeks after my terrible experience. But the conductor said my hair was white when he found me on the rear of his train."—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

Horrible Religious Rites.

There is within the limits of New Mexico a body known as Las Flagelantes or Las Penitentes. The latter name is more common with us here.

The *Journal* man on Friday had an opportunity of witnessing the methods of these people as exhibited at Nacimento, in the noathern portion of this County, and one of the strongholds of the order. The little adobe church was filled to overflowing with devotees of the order and idle curiosity-seekers. Services were commenced with singing and then other exercises followed preliminary to the horrible work so soon to follow. An immense cross had been provided, the length of which was fully 12 feet, with a cross-bar of about six feet, and the whole weighing fully 175 to 200 pounds. Those who were to take part in the brutal, cruel exercises were three men ranging in age from 21 to 28 years, and a boy of not more than 17 years. All were stripped to the waist and each carried a piece of soapweed, which is very tough of fibre, and through which thorns from our native cactus had been pushed, making an instrument the very sight of which brought back thoughts of the Inquisition.

One of the men with much effort took the cross upon his back and the procession was ready to start for a little hill about one mile distant. A sort of weird melody or chanting was set up and the scourge immediately applied to the back of each devotee by his own hand. Blood started at every stroke, but the lashing was kept up without cessation. Several times he who bore the cross fell under its weight, when a horrible demoniac shout from his brothers in misery, he was again brought to his feet, and given renewed courage by a terrible scouraging administered to him by those nearest.

It required fully an hour to make the journey, for the cross-bearer fell upon his face no less than seven times, a scourging being administered upon each occasion. The top of the hill reached, the cross was erected, and he who had borne the instrument thither was stretched upon it, being tied hand and foot. Again and again he was made to feet the thorns, until at last, from loss of blood, he fainted completely away, and there he was left while all the others returned to the church. The victim of this fanaticism—this hideous barbarity — must remain upon that cross until the darkness may hide those who come to carry him away. Several have died under this usage, but even this never serves as a lesson for the future.

All day long this self beating is kept up, being varied now and then by new and additional methods of torture. Long limbs of the cactus are lashed up and down the limbs, so that the sharp, keen thorns pierce the flesh at short intervals, causing the crimson streams to cover the ground on all sides of the poor, suffering, ignorant fanatics. Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters look on and only seem to enjoy the terrible physical sufferings of those who should be nearest and dearest to them, and even suggest new ways in which their afflictions may be increased. Is it any wonder that these devotees become crazed, or worse still, meet their death? In three cases out of five, so we are informed, the exercises end in the death of the celebrants.—*Albuquerque Journal.*

Gauntlet gloves will be used this season for playing tennis, croquet and other out door games.

The Camp Fire.

SEASONABLE MEMORIES.

LAST WEEK IN MAY, 1861.

Brought face to face with actual war by the firing on Fort Sumter, the attack on the Massachusetts troops in Baltimore, and the attempts of the Virginians to seize the forts and other Government property in that State, Mr. Lincoln's administration acted with magnificent energy. Troops were hurried forward with all celerity, and the capital was speedily made secure against any force that the Rebels could march against it. It went further with discreet expedition. It made such a display of force in Maryland that the schemes of the Rebel conspirators to commit that State to the Confederacy were frustrated by such energetic measures as suspending the *habeas corpus*, arresting the Secession members of the Legislature, disbanding the Rebel militia, and finally marching a sufficient force into Baltimore to overawe the Rebels there, and restore the ascendancy of the Union sentiment in that City.

So far Virginia, while sympathizing strongly with the Rebellion was not officially committed to it. The position of the State was to be determined by an election held May 23. The Government, though there was little doubt as to the issue of this, decided to await it, and refrain from any movement upon Virginia soil until the result of the election was known. But three columns of troops were assembled on the borders, in readiness to move the instant that it should be deemed advisable to place them in motion. One of these columns was at Marietta, O., with the terminus of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Parkersburg for its objective; the second was opposite Wheeling, and the third, and strongest, was to move across the Potomac, and seize Arlington and other hights which were necessary to the defense of Washington.

As soon as the result of the election was known orders were sent to the columns to cross the Ohio and the Potomac. Those which crossed the Ohio were welcomed by the loyal West Virginians, and encountered no opposition anywhere. That which moved out from Washington had a different fate. Its advance was led by the regiment of New York Fire Zouaves commanded by Col. Ellsworth, and landed at Alexandria, nine miles below Washington, under cover of the guns of several war vessels. The Rebel pickets fired their guns into the air, and fell back as our troops advanced into the Town. After it had been completely occupied Col. Ellsworth noticed a Rebel flag flying from the roof of the hotel. He ran up the stairs to the roof, followed by some of his men, cut the halliards and secured the flag. As he was returning Jackson, the proprietor of the hotel, came out of a room with a double-barreled shot-gun, which he discharged into young Ellsworth's bosom, killing him instantly. Jackson was immediately shot down and bayoneted by Serg. Frank Brownell, of Ellsworth's regiment. This event helped greatly to intensify the war spirit of the North. The occupation of the territory adjacent to Washington on the Virginia side of the Potomac was completed, and the sanguine expectations of the Rebels of being able to shell the Capitol from Virginia soil were blasted.

In the meanwhile stirring events were taking place in Missouri. The Rebels were bending every energy to carry that State over to the Rebellion, as they had Virginia, and they seemed likely to be successful. They had a clear majority of the voters of the State on their side, and all the State machinery in their hands. Against them were opposed a strong Union element at St. Louis, and Northern Missouri, by two very remarkable men: Francis P. Blair, jr., and Capt. Lyon, of the Regular Army. Mr. Blair was a politician of great ability and force of character, who had made himself conspicuous by his Republicanism in that slaveholding State. Capt. Lyon was, in addition to being that rarest of individuals in the Regular Army, an Abolitionist, a soldier of high courage, great executive ability and untiring energy. The two proved themselves more than a match for the active and unscrupulous Rebel leaders. They organized the loyal Germans of St. Louis into a Home Guards, with whom they secured the important armory at St. Louis. The Rebels retaliated by organizing the militia under Rebel officers, and establishing a "Camp of Instruction," named "Camp Jackson," after the Rebel Governor of the State, on a hill which overlooked the armory. Lyon was but the man to endure this sort of menace calmly. He electrified the country one day by suddenly marching out of the Armory with his Home Guards, a little band of Regulars, and a few pieces of artillery with whom he surprised the incipient Rebels, and after establishing himself in a commanding position sent a summons to the astounded Rebel commander to surrender, which the latter very reluctantly did.

A little later Lyon, now a Brigadier-General,—found himself handicapped by an armistice which his superior officer, Gen. Harney, had been beguiled in concluding with Gen. Price, the Rebel commander, and military operations in Missouri came to a standstill.

LAST WEEK IN MAY, 1863.

Stonewall Jackson, watching his opportunity, fell upon the scattered forces of Gen. Banks, in the Shenandoah Valley, with an immensely superior force, and in a series of sharp little battles drove him down the Valley with a heavy loss in killed, wounded, prisoners, wagons and stores.

The Army of the Potomac, approaching the line of the Chickahominy, encountered the Rebels at Newbridge, where the passage of the river was secured by the gallantry of the Fourth Michigan. The Fifth Corps, which was on the extreme right, had a collision at Hanover Court House, in which it lost 53 killed and 433 wounded, but inflicted much heavier losses on the Rebels, who were driven from the field.

The advance of the Army of the Potomac crossed the sluggish Chickahominy about the middle of May. The Fourth Corps, commanded by Gen. Keyes, was in the lead, with Heintzleman's Third Corps following. The first took up position at Fair Oaks, and the second at Seven Pines. Together they numbered about 33,000 men. A rainstorm of frightful violence swelled the Chickahominy behind them, and Johnston, who commanded the Rebels, thought he saw an opportunity to destroy them, before they could get assistance.

On the 30th of May he advanced a heavy force of 27 brigades numbering in all between 50,000 and 60,000 men, and composed in four grand columns, commanded respectively by Gens. Longstreet, C. W. Smith, Huger and A. P. Hill, against the isolated corps. A savage conflict ensued, lasting two days. On the first our men were driven from their position, with much loss. During the day Gen. Sumner rushed his corps across two rickety bridges which spanned the Chickahominy, and put them into battle with such telling effect that the Rebels were swept from the field. Had McClellan showed common military sagacity, and followed up the retreating forces with vigor, he could have marched directly into Richmond.

In the two days' battle the Union losses were:

Killed	890
Wounded	5,627
Missing	1,222
Total	5,739

The total Rebel loss was 7,997.

On the 21st of May, Gen. Halleck's nearest batteries were three miles from the Town of Corinth. The great, slow-moving anaconda, which had taken six weeks to come from Shiloh, was coiling with deadly precision around the Rebel army, and Beauregard decided to evacuate. He began his movement on the 26th, and in three days got his men and stores safely out of the beleaguered place, without his movement being discovered by Halleck. On the morning of the 30th our troops entered the Town unopposed, and made the discovery that they could have done so long before. The second great line of Rebel defense in the West was thus broken, and the Confederacy again cut in two.

LAST WEEK IN MAY, 1863.

The Army of the Potomac was back in its old position, on the north side of the Rappahannock, recovering from its hurts received at Chancellorsville, and making ready for its grand march into Pennsylvania, and the battle of Gettysburg.

After the brilliant passage of the Big Black on the 18th of May, Grant drove Pemberton into Vicksburg, and sat down to besiege him. So far the campaign had been a success beyond Grant's most sanguine expectations. He had marched 200 miles, fought four battles, taken 90 guns, and 6,000 prisoners, and, better than all, had separated Pemberton from Johnston, driving the former into Vicksburg, beyond the reach of any assistance from his ally.

Sherman advanced to 3½ miles of Vicksburg, and turning to the right established commun

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication, but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters but complying with this rule find their way at once to the waste basket.

2. Mathematical problems and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper in the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this Department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms or corporations doing a general business. The BLADE'S endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately, and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in a distant part of the country.

Correspondents whose inquiries are not answered within a reasonable time would do well to repeat them. If they still fail to receive an answer they are asked to believe that the questions remain unanswered for good and sufficient reasons.

We must request that subscribers will keep all communications for the business and editorial departments of the BLADE entirely separate and distinct, always upon separate leaves. Questions for this department should never be written on the same leaf with letters containing subscriptions or orders for books. Letters intended for this department of the paper should be marked "Correspondents' Department."

Sub., Toledo, O.:
Will you please state the age of Maggie Mitchell?

About 50, we think.

F. H. P., Mt. Moriah, Mo.:
What is the largest building on record, and where situated?

The New Orleans Exposition building, we believe.

A. S. P., Quakervale, Kans.:
Can a soldier who is drawing a pension relinquish it for the good of the service, and thus prohibit himself or heirs from getting it afterwards?

Certainly. Several pensioners have refused to draw their money, which reverts to the Government.

Reader, Beloit, Ia.:
1. Who was the first white child born in North America? 2. Where does the largest amount of tin come from? 3. Where is the hottest part of the earth?

1. Snorri Karlsefne, in 1007. 2. England. 3. For this year, in Chicago, during the Convention season. At other times, in Africa, where "the sun is like fire, and the wind like a flame."

W. C. B., LeSeur, Minn.:
1. Are Mrs. Southworth (author of "The Hidden Hand") and Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth the same persons? 2. If a man, having filed on a homestead claim, should die before the end of the time it takes to secure the deed, could his widow secure the land by living on it the remainder of the time?

1. Yes. Mrs S. A. Southworth has also written a number of books. 2. Yes; and if the widow dies, the minor children.

S. C., Gamburg, Mo.:
What is the estimated wealth per inhabitant in Great Britain and United States?

In Great Britain it is estimated at $1,100, and in the United States at $405. With regard to the remuneration of labor, assuming the produce of labor to be 100, in Great Britain 56 parts go to the laborer, 21 to capital and 23 to the Government. In the United States 72 parts go to the laborer, 23 to capital and 5 to the Government.

E. B. H., Whitesville, N. Y.:
Please tell me whether the law requires three witnesses to a will, and in what year it became a law.

In New York the will must be subscribed by the testator in the presence of at least two competent witnesses; or it must be acknowledged to each of such contesting witnesses, or to such of them as were not present at the making of such subscription, by the testator, to have been so made. Each of the two attesting witnesses must sign his name as a witness at the end of the will, giving his residence. We do not know how long the law has been in force.

J. B. H., Valparaiso, Ind.:
1. Please give a synopsis of the temperance law now in force in Ohio. 2. Does Gen. Fremont draw a pension from the Government?

1. Ohio has a liquor tax law—$300 for the sale of whisky and beer, and $100 for the sale of beer alone, the tax to be paid semi-annually. The tax is a lien on the premises. The temperance clause (local option) was repealed by Payne's Coal Oil Legislature, and the Democratic Supreme Court is expected to declare the balance of the law unconstitutional, so free trade in whisky will again prevail. 2. No; there is a bill pending in Congress to grant him a pension.

E. P. R., Thorntown, Ind.:
1. Was the Declaration of Independence original with Thomas Jefferson? 2. By whom was the Pentateuch written? 3. What is the origin of the word "Yankee"? 4. What is India rubber and how procured? 5. Is there a paper published in Canada called "The Family Herald?"

1. Portions of it; we have heretofore given all the facts in regard to the matter. 2. As in the case of Jefferson and the Declaration, there seems to be a disposition to give several writers credit. You must work out the problem to your own satisfaction. Probably you have already made up your mind, and nothing the BLADE might say could change it. 3. The initial letters of the four points of the compass. 4. The milky juice of trees, obtained by tapping. 5. Very likely; we have no Canadian newspaper directory at hand.

R. N., Crab Orchard, Ill.:
1. How many colored members in either House of Congress now? 2. Where and when died ex-Vice President Fillmore died? 3. Give a sketch of Richard Henry Stodard, author of "Burial of Lincoln."

1. One in the House, from South Carolina. 2. He died in Buffalo, March 8, 1874. 3. He was born at Hingham, Mass., in 1825. His father, a sea captain, was lost on a voyage to Sweden in the early youth of the son, who for several years worked in an iron foundry in New York, where he also held for some years a post in the Customs House. His health failing, he became in 1848 a contributor to magazines and newspapers. In 1852 he married Elizabeth Drew (Barstow,) a poetess and novelist. In 1849 he published a collection of poems entitled "Footprints." He has written "Adventures in Fairy Land," a series of prose tales; "Songs of Summer," and "Town and Country," a book for children; "Loves and Heroines of the Poets;" "The King's Bell;" "Putnam the Brave;" "Life, Travels and Books of Alexander von Humboldt;" "Abraham Lincoln," an Horatian ode; "Madrigals," mostly from old English poets; "Books of the East," etc.

Jane, Naches, Ala.:
Will you please give full directions for making luminous paint?

Take oyster shells and clean them with warm water; put them into the fire for half an hour; at the end of that time take them out and let them cool. When quite cool pound them fine and take away any parts, as they are of no use. Put the powder in a crucible with alternate layers of flowers of sulphur. Put on the lid and cement with sand made into a stiff paste with beer. When dry, put over the fire and bake for an hour. Wake until quite cold before opening the lid. The product ought to be white. You must separate all gray parts, as they are not luminous. Make a sifter in the following manner: Take a pan, put a piece of very fine muslin very loosely across it, tie around with a string, put the powder into the top, and rake about till only the coarse powder remains; open the pan and you will find a very fine powder. Mix into it a thin paint with gum water, as two thin applications are better than one thick one. This will give paint that will remain luminous far into the night, provided it is exposed to the light during the day.

Sub., St. Genevieve, Mo.:
1. Where can reports be procured showing by ordered distances the vital and agricultural statistics for 1880? 2. Give remedy for barber's itch? 3. Who was Rip Van Winkle? 4. Who was Robin Hood? 5. Where are mermaids found? describe them and their habits.

1. Write your Congressman, or the Public Printer, Washington, D. C. 2. Moisten the part affected with saliva (spittle,) and rub it over thoroughly three times a day with the ashes of a good Havana cigar. Said to be a sure cure. 3. A character in Washington Irving's "Sketch Book." He is represented as having met a strange man with a keg of liquor in a ravine of the Kaatskill Mountains. He assisted in carrying the liquor to a retreat among the rocks, where were assembled some old looking old men. "Rip," when no one was looking, stole a drink of the liquor, when he fell into a deep sleep, which lasted 20 years, though it seemed to him but one night. When he returned home he was surprised to find his wife dead, his children married and the Colonies free. The story of Peter Klaus, an old tradition of Germany, relates how a goatherd took a drink of wine and fell to sleep for 20 years, waking to find his goats and dog gone, and trees and high grass all around him. 4. A British outlaw, if there ever was such a person at all. 5. In the deep, deep sea, or "in your eye."

J. T., Rock Prairie, Wis.:
In what year was the Parliament House at Montreal destroyed and Lord Elgin, the then Governor General of Canada, pelted by a mob?

In 1849.

School Girl Ashland, O.:
To whom should I apply for a position as copyist?

Haven't the least idea, unless you advertise in the BLADE.

C. S. O., Whitney's Point, N. Y.:
1. When was the rank of full General created? 2. Who have held it, and upon what date was it conferred upon them?

1. In 1866. 2. Grant, July 25, 1866; Sherman, March 4, 1869.

A. S., Monmouth, Ill:
Where can I find a key to the engraving, "Pilgrim's Progress?"

The best key is to read the book, which can be obtained at any bookstore, or send to Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo, O.

Mechanic, Kingston, N. M:
1. What is done with the retired paper money? 2. Is there any reward for perpetual motion by any government? 3. Did the Government appropriate anything to the Keely motor?

1. Destroyed by the proper officers. 2. Think not. 3. No.

A Teacher, Clarks, Neb.:
Please sketch the life and travels of Marco Polo.

Polo was born about 1450, and accompanied his father and uncle, in 1471, into Tartary, where they resided for 24 years and acquired great riches. Marco was in high favor with the Grand Khan, and was employed by him in missions to the most distant part of the Empire, and was for three years Governor of Yang-cheu-feu. After his return to Venice he was appointed to the command of a galley, but was captured by the Genoese, who kept him four years a captive. To beguile the tedium of captivity, as well as to satisfy the curiosity of numerous inquirers, he wrote the narratives of his travels.

F. B., Sago, O:
Will you inform me of a cheap plan of making a concrete pavement—something that has been tried and found a success?

After the ground on which the floor is intended to be made is leveled, let it be covered to the thickness of three or four inches with stones broken small and well rammed down, upon which let there be run, about 1½ inches above the stones, one part, by measure, calcined ferruginous marl and two parts coarse sand and fine gravel; mix to a thin consistency with water. Before this coating has become thoroughly set, lay upon it a coat of calcined marl, mixed with an equal part of fine sand, one to one and one-half inches thick, leveled to an even surface. The addition of blood will render this compost harder.

Sub., Elizabethtown, Ill:
1. Can you tell me what changes have been made in the coast line of Bolivia since the recent Peru-Bolivia and Chili troubles? 2. Give a brief description of the panic of 1857.

1. As a result of the war with Chili, Bolivia has ceded to that country all her coast territory. The exact area ceded is not ascertained. 2. The failure of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company, which took place August 24, was the first act in the panic which swept through the commercial world so fiercely. Banks everywhere were forced to suspend. The chief cause of the disaster was the rage for land speculation. Paper cities abounded and unproductive railroads were opened. There were no Goulds and Vanderbilts, Seneys and Wards then, and no such gigantic enterprises as are being engineered to-day; neither did the country have the admirable system of finance it has to-day.

W. S. W., Brazoria, Tex.:
1. When does the Republican Convention meet at Chicago? 2. Whom does the editor of the BLADE prefer for President? 3. What did it favor the United States to take the last census? 4. Which of the Southern states has the highest liquor license and which the lowest? 5. Which State is the most prosperous, Florida or Arkansas? 6. What size town is Marianna City, Fla.? 7. Which government pays for the transportation of mails from the United States to Europe? 8. How many railroads in Florida? 9. Giving fair count, is it a Democratic or Republican State?

1. June 3. 2. The man the Republican Convention puts in nomination. 3. Three millions was the original appropriation, exclusive of printing and engraving; the exact cost cannot be given yet. 4. Missouri has the most stringent license law, and, when all its provisions are enforced, the most costly to the dealer. The license laws of the other Southern States have so many special provisions that it is difficult to find out just what the license costs. The State exacts a certain sum, then leaves it to the Counties or Cities to fix the local license. 5. Florida appears to be, just at present. 6. The population of the election precinct is about 3,000, of Marianna about 600. 7. The United States. 8. Sixteen. 9. Republican.

J. W. R., Harrisburg, Pa.:
1. Give a biographical sketch of Cyrus, the founder of the Persian Empire, his wars and conquests. 2. A sketch of Juarez, late President of Mexico, of his efforts for the country against Maximilian, etc. 3. Since the purchase of Alaska does not the United States corner on the North Pole?

1. He is supposed to have been born about 599 B. C.; historians differ so widely that they cannot be reconciled; Herodotus says he was the grandson of Astyages, King of the Medes. Astyages, excited by the sinister predictions drawn from a dream, ordered Cyrus, as soon as born, to be put to death, but he was preserved by the herdsman entrusted with the execution of his order. Cyrus became the ringleader in all the boyish sports in the village where he was brought up, and was chosen King by his companions, and his commands having been disobeyed by the son of a Median noble, the young King had him severely scourged. The lad's father complained to Astyages, who, on inquiry, discovered that Cyrus was his grandson, and, having recovered from his alarm caused by a dream, sent the young village monarch to his parents in Persia. Astyages forgave the herdsman, but the courtier, Harpagus, who consigned the child to the herdsman, was inhumanly punished. He was invited to a banquet, at which the slaughtered child of the unhappy man was served up as one of the dishes. When Cyrus had arrived at manhood, Harpagus, who had long brooded schemes of vengeance, entered into a correspondence with him. A revolt was organized in Persia to throw off the Median yoke, of which Cyrus was the head. Astyages was defeated in a great battle, and taken prisoner, 559 B. C. Cyrus detained him for life a captive in his palace, ascended the throne in his stead, and thus the Median merged into what became the great Persian Empire. After many successful wars he became master of nearly all the countries between the Indus and the Ægean, the Oxus and the Red Sea. He invested Babylon, and, after a two years' siege, extinguished the great Assyrian Empire. Soon after this he issued the edict empowering such of the Jews as were remaining from the Babylonish captivity to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. Historians differ as to the manner of his death. One account is that he invaded Scythia and was signally defeated by Tomyris, Queen of that fierce people, in an engagement in which he lost his life, and who caused his head to be thrown into a vessel filled with human blood, exclaiming, "Satiate thyself with the blood for which thou hast so ardently thirsted." Other accounts say he died in peace at his home. 2. When very young he lost his parents, who were Indians in humble circumstances. At the age of 12, when he was still unable to speak Spanish, an uncle sistered friar of Oajaca took him into the service of his family, afterwards placing him in the seminary of that city. Young Juarez soon abandoned theology for the law and graduated with high honors, being admitted to the bar in 1834. In 1842 he became Chief Judge of the Republic, which post he held till 1845. Arteaga having resigned in 1847, Juarez was elected in his stead and remained Governor till August, 1852. One of the first acts of Santa Anna on seizing the reins of government was the arrest and exile of Juarez, who, almost destitute of resources, sojourned two years in New Orleans. In July, 1855, he returned to Mexico and joined Gen. Alvarez, then commanding the revolutionary troops against Santa Anna. When Alvarez was proclaimed President he appointed Juarez Minister of Justice and Religion. When Comonfort succeeded Alvarez, he appointed Juarez Governor of Oajaca, in order to remove him from the Cabinet. In September, 1857, he was elected President of the Supreme Court of Justice, which, in Mexico, is equivalent to the Vice Presidency. In October he was appointed Minister of the Interior. On the downfall of the Comonfort administration, Juarez issued a manifesto, formed a Cabinet, and, by virtue of his office of Chief Justice, was recognized as President; in March, 1861, he was confirmed by a general election. When Maximilian assumed the functions of Emperor at the capital, Juarez withdrew to El Paso del Norte, where he fixed his government, August 15, 1865. His term of office having expired, Gen. Ortya asserted his right to assume executive power, but Juarez refused to yield. In June, 1866, his army being victorious in several engagements, he advanced southward, captured and shot Maximilian, re-entered the capital July 16, and was re-elected President in October. The succeeding five years were marked by a series of revolutions. Peace was finally restored in 1872, and Juarez, who had been re-elected in 1871, seemed likely to enjoy a season of tranquility, but his constitution gave way, and he died July 18, 1872. 3. Yes.

Sub., Cavett, O.:
Are there any watches made that sell for $500 without the chain?

Yes.

Inquirer, Morgan Co., O.:
1. Is it profitable for a lady to learn telegraphy? 2. Where is the best place for learning it? 3. Are ladies as readily employed in this business as men?

1. Yes. 2. There are good schools in every City. Oberlin is said to be a good place. 3. We think not at present, but they are slowly winning their way.

Sub., McCoy, O.:
1. Did Gen. Anthony Wayne leave children at his death? 2. Had he property or lands at his death? 3. Was there a few years ago notice for the Wayne heirs to settle up their claims?

1. Yes; his son Isaac, a member of Congress, died in Chester County, Pa., in 1852. 2. He had property; do not know about bonds. 3. Do not know.

W. S. T., Morgantown, Ky.:
What are the names of the Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican Committees and their addresses in Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia?

Cannot say. A letter addressed to the Chairman of the Republican or Democratic State Committee, in care of the Postmaster at the State Capital, will probably reach the right party.

B. F. H., Bentonville, Ark.:
Please inform me where I can procure the portraits of the Democrats in a group who voted against the Morrison bill. Democrats who have nerve and moral courage enough to take their chances against such odds are worthy to adorn the walls of any parlor.

We do not think they have been photographed yet. As the Morrison wing of the party call them the "Forty-one Traitors," and threaten to punish them as deserters, their portraits will probably be sent out by the Democratic Congressional Committee, as a warning to the rising generation of Democrats.

S. F. B., Washington, Ill.:
1. Is Oliver W. Holmes living? 2. What distinguished American authors have died since January 1, 1882?

1. Yes. 2. George Sharswood, a legal writer; Rev. Charles T. Brooks, Alexander Stephens, Richard H. Dana, jr.; Ralph Waldo Emerson; H. W. Longfellow, Charles Hale, Gen. J. G. Bernard, a military writer, George P. Marsh, Prof. Henry Draper. These are all the names we recall, though there are scores of others, more or less distinguished as writers.

G. C. B., Boaz, Ky.:
I see in your last issue that our worthy Representative (Mr. Turner) has made a speech in Congress in favor of the poor farmer having his trace chains free of duty. Please state for the peace and comfort of the poor farmer just what the duty per pair on trace chains is. 2. What are the names and politics of the Justices who rendered the late decision in regard to the Civil Rights bill?

1. The duty on chains ranges from 1¾ to 3½ cents per pound. 2. M. R. Waite, Chief Justice, and Justices S. F. Miller, S. J. Field, J. P. Bradley, J. M. Harlan, W. B. Woods, Stanley Matthews, Horace Gray and Samuel Blatchford compose the Supreme Court of the United States—all understood to be Republicans except Field. Judge Harlan dissented.

J. G. T., Logansport, Ind.:
What is the process used in making, and of what is glass composed?

The essential materials of ordinary glass are silica and boracic acid, the alkalies, lime, and oxide of lead. The crude materials employed in the manufacture of glass are selected with more or less care, according to the quality of the articles to be produced. The three principal elements of which crown and sheet glass are composed are silica, soda, and lime. Of these by far the greatest element is silica, which is now universally supplied in the form of sand. It was in England once procured from flints calcined and ground to powder, whence the name flint glass. The purest and best sand in the world for manufacturing glass is from Lanesborough, Mass., and other portions of Berkshire County. Some of it is exported to Europe, where it is known as the "Berkshire white sand," and there used in making the best qualities of glass. The grains are remarkable for their purity; in the mass they appear white, but under the microscope each grain is limpid like clear quartz crystal. Next to the American sand in quality is that obtained from Fontainebleau, in France, and much used by the French manufacturers. It is almost entirely free from iron, and is well adapted for the manufacture of white glass. Lime may be used either in the state of quicklime or in limestone of the purest qualities. Common wood ashes have been used to furnish potash, and ashes of sea plants to furnish soda; but these have been replaced by the crude alkalies obtained from them and other sources, and for some purposes refined pearlash is employed. In melting glass, the raw materials, thoroughly ground, mixed together and sifted, are well incorporated with from one-quarter to one-third of their weight of broken glass before being introduced into the melting pots. These are already heated to a white heat in the furnace, and receive only two-thirds of a charge at a time, more being added as the first portion melts down. The ingredients melt and sink down into a clear fluid, throwing up a scum, which is removed from time to time. This clear glass, in the fused state, is now kept at a white heat till all air-bubbles have disappeared; the heat is then lowered to a bright redness, when the glass assumes a consistence and ductility suitable to the purpose of the glass-blower. Glass-blowing requires great practice and manual dexterity, for the material used, being red-hot, cannot be touched with the hands, and has to be very rapidly worked, or it becomes cool and hard. The glass-blower has a hollow rod of iron called a "puntil," on one end of which a mass of molten glass is collected, and the workman blows into the other, at the same time turning the tube rapidly round with his hands. When the kind of glass called "crown glass" has to be made, the end of the iron tube is put into the pot of melted glass and turned round till a ball of it is collected about the size of one's head; the workman then blows in at the other end, still turning the rod in his hands. An iron is stuck on the globe opposite to the "puntil," which is then pulled suddenly away, leaving a round hole. The globe of glass is again made red-hot, and spun around rapidly, the hole increasing in size. By continuing the rapid twirling of the rod, the hole opens wider and wider, till at last one broad sheet is produced. It is then separated from the rod by putting a drop of cold water at its junction with the glass, which causes it to crack apart at that point. Plate glass is cast by pouring it from a large pot on to a flat iron table with a ridge all round it, on which an iron roller is so placed that, when the molten glass flows on the table, it passes over and flattens it out to the required thinness. When cold, the surface of the plate is ground perfectly flat and even by means of emery powder, then polished with a cloth rub her charged with a fine red oxide of iron called "crocus." Bottles, etc., are either simply blown into the form required or into moulds made to close upon the balls of soft glass and again open when the required form has been given.

Delayed Subscriptions.

[NOTE—Subscribers wishing a change in their postoffice address must, in all cases, give their FORMER as well as their PRESENT address.]

It sometimes happens that persons order the BLADE mailed to them and fail to receive after a reasonable time has elapsed. Why this is will readily be seen from the following list of persons sending money for the BLADE and failing either to sign their names or give their address:

Letter containing $1, dated at Sonora, no County or State, signed Thos. Alnsley.

Letter containing $1, no date, postmarked at Roanoke, Ind., no name or address.

Letter containing $1, no date, orders specimen copies for Thos. Jones, D. H. Burnett and others.

Letter containing $1, no address, signed G. Drummond.

Letter containing 10c., no address, signed A. P. Higley.

Letter containing $1, no name or address.

Letter containing $1, no address, signed H. E. Barr.

Letter containing money order No. 1,555 for $1.10, postmarked Scio, Oregon, no order or name.

Letter containing $1, from New Lisbon, Wis., no order or name.

Letter containing $1, no date, signed W. Y. Smith.

Letter containing 30c, dated at Marlana, no State, signed Mrs. R. A. Sexton.

Letter containing 30c., no date, signed Wm Campbell.

Letter containing $1, dated at Westerville, Neb., no signature.

Letter containing $1, from Jefferson, O., no signature.

Letter containing $2, dated at Westport, Cal., signed Alex. Gordon, no order.

If Esther A. Gordon, of Bridgeport, will give her full address the error will be corrected.

Parties remitting money or express order SHOULD ALWAYS give their name and address. We often get money without either, and afterwards inquiries as to the receipt of the money. Our patrons will please bear this in mind, as we can do nothing without their NAME and ADDRESS IN FULL.

SOLDIERS' CLAIMS.

Every Soldier disabled in service and in line of duty by wound, injury or disease, is entitled to pension. Widows, Minor Children, Dependent Father or Mother, or minor brothers and sisters of soldiers, whose death was due to military service, are entitled. **Thousands of Pensioners Entitled to Increase.** Honorable Discharges, and Certificates of Lost Discharges, obtained. Charge of desertion removed. Horse claims payable to January, 1884. Bounty still due in many cases. Send 6c. in postage for New Laws, Rulings and Decisions. U. S. BERLINE CO., 712 Eleventh St., Washington, D.C.

POSTOFFICE SECRETS.

A Rule of the Department as to Imparting Information.

"There is a law of the Postoffice Department," said Assistant Postmaster Woolfenden yesterday, "that requires absolute secrecy upon the part of employes as to the business of the office. If a stranger comes to inquire for a letter, or concerning letters sent, we can give him no information unless he is the party directly interested. It is the same in the money-order department. We are not authorized to make known amounts of moneys sent or received. In fact the employes cannot 'give away' any of the business secrets—and this order is of long standing."

"How does the rule affect letter-carriers?"

"It is the same as I have said concerning the other departments of the office. Order No. 42 applies directly to these, and sets forth that as carriers have special opportunity to get hold of information of a private character concerning persons on their routes they should rigidly guard themselves against repeating any of it, or in any way intimating that they have facts which would prove injurious to the person interested. And they are forbidden to give any information as to letters sent or received by persons on their routes, this latter provision going so far as to include even members of the same family, whether they do or do not live in the same house."

"Is the order obeyed literally?"

"No complaints have ever been heard, and the gentlemen on the force are such as would not violate the unwritten law of common honor, nor the strict injunctions of the department. This order to forget secrets that come in the way of business is enforced in banking establishments and no infractions are tolerated. The Postoffice Department is likewise emphatic in demanding that the rule shall be obeyed. —*Detroit Times.*

A Good Reason.

First Cabman—"What did you charge that stranger for driving him around the corner to the hotel?"

Second Cabman—"I charged $4.97."

"$4.97? That is a queer figure. Why didn't you make it an even $5?"

"Because $4.97 was all he had."—*Philadelphia Call.*

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Skin and Blood Disease,
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CUTICURA REMEDIES are absolutely pure, and the only infallible Skin Purifiers and Beautifiers. Sold everywhere. Price, Cuticura, 50 cents; Soap, 25 cents; Resolvent, $1. POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., BOSTON, MASS.

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IS WARRANTED to cure all cases of malarial disease, such as Fever and Ague, Intermittent or Chill Fever, Remittent Fever, Dumb Ague, Bilious Fever, and Liver Complaint. In case of failure, after due trial, dealers are authorized, by our circular of July 1st, 1882, to refund the money.

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4 Ton Size, Beam Box Included.
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To M. B. Church, Manager:

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R. C. KEDZIE, Professor of Chemistry.

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MR. EMERSON stands confessedly in the very front rank of church music composers, and Mr. SHERWIN, also eminent as a composer, has had great success in the compiling of the best-known Sunday School music books, and has for years had charge of the musical department at

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THE WEEKLY BLADE

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubs.

D. R. LOCKE, Editor.
JOHN McELROY, Associate Editor.

TOLEDO, THURSDAY, May 29, 1884.

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Circulation Last Week, 112,000.

Two installments of our serial "Court and Camp," are on the water somewhere between Liverpool and New York, so we are compelled to go to press without them this week. Mr. WARREN, the author, is now in this country, and a dispatch assures us that he has re written the missing numbers, and we shall resume the publication next week.

OUR CAMPAIGN TERMS.

We cannot spare space in which to announce in full our campaign terms for the WEEKLY BLADE! We have decided upon terms for short time subscriptions lower than will be offered by any other paper, so low in fact that clubs will be raised in every town, proportionate in number to the number of families.

These terms will be sent to everybody on application. We want some one in every town to raise us clubs for the coming campaign. Send for specimens and terms, and devote one day to raising a club of 100. We shall make it worth any one's time to assist in extending the power of the BLADE for good.

The Augusta (Ga.) *Chronicle* is published at a place where unlimited water-power gives hopes of a development of manufactories, and consequently it does not want any Free Trade nonsense now and at any time. It says that "FRANK HURD and the Kentucky statesman, aided by Southern enthusiasts, prefer, unintelligently perhaps, to start England's cotton-spinning spindles and forge[illegible] is equal to the folly of our own people in giving bounties to the disadvantaged cotton planters. We had better not let go the substance to grasp the shadow."

AIMEE can not sing any more—(this is no news to any one who has heard her at any time during the last five or six years) but she is not at all discouraged. She is coming back here next year to act in dramas, and "when I can't speak," she says, "I'll go into the pantomines," so that we are likely to have her with us for several decades more.

THERE is one not insignificant good feature connected with the recent panic in New York. Quite a number of the rascally "brokers," who are advertising to put country greenhorns in the way of making a fortune in six easy investments, are badly bursted, and will swindle no more, for a weeks, at least.

GOV. OGLESBY, of Illinois, is sure that BLAINE is in the lead for the nomination, and still surer that the Republican nominee will be elected, whoever he may be. Gov. OGLESBY is distinguished by the possession of a very solid article of horse sense.

PURE blondes will value their complexions more when they learn that they are becoming rapidly rarer. Some one who has been for several years making observations say they have diminished 50 per cent. since he began thinking about the matter.

A LARGE majority of the people of the country are eminently satisfied with the course of the Republicans while in power—as they most assuredly should be—and they propose to vote to maintain the party's dominance.

THIS week Chicago is enjoying the music created by THEODORE THOMAS with his grand orchestra and great singers. Next week there will be music of an other kind in the Exposition building.

HOLMAN, of Indiana, learning that his re-nomination was not certain, left Washington for home immediately. The Democratic Convention in his district meets very soon.

EMINENT physicians are protesting against the use of ammonia in any form for cooking purposes, because of the certain injury to the health resulting.

PUTTING FRED. WARD in TWEED'S old cell is not likely to give the young man pleasant thoughts, as the future of a swindler who has passed his zenith.

THE English troops have managed to secure one souvenir of the Soudan campaign, and that is OSMAN DIGNA'S frying pan taken from his tent at Tamasi.

THERE are 35,000 more women than men in Philadelphia. Some HORACE GREELEY should rise up and advise them to "go West."

IN 1860 the poultry product of the country was reported at $50,000,000; in 1880 it was $150,000,000.

GOV. HOADLY is in favor of TILDEN for President and PAYNE or HENDRICKS for Vice President.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE convulsions of failing firms, and bursting banks has distracted attention away from the political situation during the week. There was really nothing of importance to attract attention, as there have been no changes in the position of the delegates since the conventions were held. Mr. BLAINE'S friends, it is true, have claimed that there are signs of a strong disaffection among the Southern delegates who were leaving ARTHUR'S banner and gathering around that of Mr. BLAINE. Careful examination showed this to be utterly groundless. At the outset there were scattering delegates elected here and there over the South, who were opposed to the President's nomination, and the most of them remain so yet. As a rule, however, they are equally opposed to Mr. BLAINE'S candidacy. There has been a general stiffening-up of the Arthur "boom" during the week, and that gentleman's adherents show compact strength and earnestness which was hardly expected to be possible earlier in the canvass. The "business men's meeting" in New York, was quite a revelation of the President's strength there, and placed the movement in his favor on a much better footing than it had had.

THE financial trouble, which has prostrated a few bands and several private firms in New York, and has carried down a number of institutions in some of the smaller cities, seems to have run its course. All the indications are that New York is to be the only important center of business that is to feel its effects seriously. In most of the Cities not a single firm or bank has suspended payment, nor is there any expectation or trouble. In Boston one firm has failed; in the other large Cities none whatever.

THAT the cause of the trouble is to be traced simply to gambling in stocks and merchandize, is the general opinion. It is not one of those distressing crises, which result from a collapse of the credit money used in the discharge of business, and which cause a frightful stringency of the money market. Mr. FOLGER seems to have assumed that every crisis must have this character. He hastens to assure Wall street that he would come to its relief by calling in a quantity of redeemable bonds, altho, as the Government report shows, there are $10,000,000 payable for bonds already called in, but which their owners did not think it worth while to ask for. Neither is the present crisis due to over production on any large scale, unless it be the over-production of wheat. Our failure to sell our surplus crop in Europe this year, cannot but have produced far-reaching embarrassments to a great multitude of persons. This must have prepared the way for the recent collapse. But the fact that none of the failures are of firms engaged in a strictly legitimate trade in wheat is enough so show that even this embarrassment might have been surmounted, had not great sums been staked upon the future prices of this and other forms of merchandize.

THE more the failure of the firm of GRANT & WARD is looked into the light, the worse circumstances it is found to be. It is evident that the other partners trusted Mr. FERDINAND WARD implicity, that they asked no questions so long as he kept paying enormous dividends out of fresh deposits, that his financial methods were dishonest to the last degree, and that he kept hardly any record of the most important transactions. It is said that Gen. GRANT will lose his entire fortune; and in truth he loses what should be worth more to him than the largest fortune. He has forfeited the confidence of his countrymen in his good sense and his sensitiveness as to the use of his name.

ON Thursday last, the House yielded to the personal importunities and appeals of WILLIAM H. ENGLISH, and by a vote of 130 to 127, awarded to his hopeful son the seat which rightfully belongs to STANTON G. PEELLE. There is no reasonable ground for doubt that this decision, which was in flat violation of law and precedent, as well as of the testimony, was caused, not so much by partisan partiality in favor of young ENGLISH, as it was by the constant, persevering and pertinacious solicitations of the late Democratic candidate for Vice-President, who has worked night and day in his son's behalf. It is not necessary to assert that corrupt means have been used where personal influences have been so notoriously exerted in an improper and unseemly manner. Only a few days ago, it is asserted, four Democratic Representatives, who afterward voted in favor of ENGLISH, voluntarily assured Mr. PEELLE that after a careful examination of the case they had decided to support his title to the seat. It is believed by Mr. PEELLE and his friends that those four men were subsequently "seen" by WILLIAM H. ENGLISH, who induced them to vote against their convictions.

THE Soudan matters do not seem to wear any brighter look although it is now asserted that an expedition will be sent to Khartoum in July. The Government has some news of an alarming character, to the effect that emissaries of EL MAHDI are breeding discontent among the Egyptian soldiers, who, under British commanders, are garrisoning the Soudan. It is feared that there will be a wholesale mutiny and massacreing of British officers like that in the Sepoy rebellion of 1858.

JUST at present Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues are not in favor with the English people, and it would take but very little now to cause the downfall of the ministry. The Tories received fresh confidence from the fact that 37 Liberals did not vote against the resolution of censure of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Egyptian policy, and six absolutely voted for it. The Franchise bill is making some progress, altho a resolution was adopted by the House of Lords to reject it when it comes up from the House of Commons. This, however, they will not dare to do unless Egyptian affairs continue to go wrong.

THE Cincinnati Musical Festival which closed last Saturday night, cost $52,000. The receipts are said to be only about $40,000. What with floods and such unfortunate ventures Cincinnati has not been financially fortunate this year.

IT is a curious commentary on certain tendencies of the human family, the readiness with which men seize upon the late money flurry in New York to put off paying their debts.

THE WAY TO LOOK AT IT.

It should not be very difficult for any man to make up his mind as to how he shall vote at the coming election.

He need not go into any labored comparisons of the declarations and attitudes of the two parties on National questions. He need not bother himself with weighing the utterances and the acts of the leaders on both sides. He need not even trouble himself to contrast the history of the two parties in the past, to find out which has demeaned itself so as to be best worthy of his confidence and support.

He need not rack his brain to determine whether BAYARD, BECK, PAYNE and MCDONALD be better than SHERMAN, EDMUNDS, LOGAN and INGALLS, or *vice versa*, nor is it worth while for him to spend much anxious thought in sizing up CARLISLE, RANDALL, HURD and MORRISON, with MCKINLEY, HOAR, KELLEY and BROWN to see which are the bigger and abler statesmen.

He can get at the matter with much more ease and certainty than is possible in this long-range examination. He can study the problem most effectively in the surroundings of his own home.

Democrats are the same everywhere, and Republicans are the same. Both represent everywhere precisely the same elements. The average Democrat in New York City is to that metropolis just exactly what the Democrat of Squashtown, Posey County, Ind., is to that insignificant hamlet. The difference is not at all in kind,—only in degree.

Therefore the man who is anyways undecided as to how to cast his vote, has only to look about him, and consider who are Republicans and who are Democrats to find that he can make no mistake by casting his vote for the former and against the latter.

He has only to ask himself which he would rather have in office, such Democrats as he is acquainted with, or such Republicans as come within the circle of his knowledge. This is a certain test, for of nothing can he be surer, than that the Democrats everywhere, no matter what their reputations or prominence, are essentially the same as those he meets in his daily walks. So the Republicans of his neighborhood are fair types in all essential things of the Republicans everywhere.

So, too, he can measure the National administrations of both parties by their administration of the local affairs which come directly under his observation. He knows that the Democratic conduct of affairs never fails to range from slovenly and incompetent to actively and outrageously corrupt.

He knows that whether it be in Township, County or State Governments, the Democrats fill the offices from the choice and dictation of the lowest and worst elements—that the saloon keepers, the gamblers, the owners of slums and dives, the men engaged in every vocation that is warfare on society, fill the Democratic Conventions, and are the men most heeded when the nominations are made.

He knows that every spotted and detected man cast out of the Republican party finds a welcome in the Democratic and speedy promotion to office. He knows that around every office—high and low, big and little—held by a Democrat, hangs a perpetual atmosphere of [illegible] stink before unose of the Republican nostrils. Whether [illegible] ascendency in power and administration. He has only to look back over a few years to see how enormous the percentage of Democratic officials whose wrong-doing has been exposed, and know what a risk it is to entrust any office to a Democrat.

He has only to magnify the hoodlum ward strikers and heelers of his neighborhood a trifle, to understand what the Democratic leaders in the District and State are; a little more-magnifying, and we have the National Democratic leaders and office-holders.

So also, let him magnify the blundering incompetency, the scandals and the corruption of the Democratic administration of his local affairs a thousand fold to understand what it will be with a State ruled by Democrats, and a million-fold to comprehend what the terrible visitation upon the Nation of the Democracy's getting hold of the Government.

A little thought of this kind will radically cure him of any propensity to vote the Democratic ticket.

RUSSIA IN ASIA.

The supremacy of Great Britain in Central Asian affairs has been so long maintained that the British people had come to feel that it could not be wrested away. Now, however, France has gained a large advance by her acquisition of Tonquin, which will give her a considerable influence in China, and Russia is pressing close upon her through the annexation of Merv, which has enabled her to push the railway from the Caspian Sea to Askabad with great rapidity.

This road was begun in 1880, and the part completed has added materially to the Russian power. Formerly the long route which everything had to take from Orenburg to Tashkent, rendered the transportation of an army and of army stores very tedious; in fact, well nigh impossible. The native products were exported at such great expense as to make their marketing very difficult. Now, however, transportation from the same districts takes but one-third of the time and costs but one-third as much.

Russian energy and enterprise have been shown at their best in the construction of this railway. The first 150 miles runs through a desert which is absolutely destitute of water fit for drinking, and all that the laborers used had to be carried by sea a considerable distance to the terminus of the road.

A lack of funds caused a pause in the work for a short time, but Russia was successful in securing a loan and the work is going on. The latest piece of Russian good fortune is the cession from Persia of the fortified town of Saraks which commands the only point where the mountain chain divides Afghanistan from Turkistan and Persia can be pierced by a railway.

When the road is completed to that point a Russian army can reach Herat as quickly as a British one could get to Candahar, and reinforcements from the home Government could be conveyed much quicker. This almost accomplished purpose of Russia's shows an intention on her part to one day dispute Great Britain's ownership of so large a portion of Central Asia.

RANDALL'S cheese paring committee shaved down the appropriation asked for by the Civil Service Commission from $18,700 to $17,300.

DELAWARE is rejoicing over the prospect of the largest peach crop ever marketed.

THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

From the time the Democracy obtained control of the lower House, with the Senate almost evenly balanced, there has been a feeling of uneasiness in business circles that has seriously damaged every interest in the country. Scores of manufactories have suspended operations till the danger of a Democratic interference with business interests should have passed. There are manufactories of importance in Ohio, begun within two years that have never lighted their fires, waiting to see what a Democratic Congress would do. If what they tried to do had been consummated, their fires would never be lighted, and the capital already invested would have been lost. Important industries were saved to the country by the independent action of a few Democratic members who were wise enough to see the ruin that would follow the unchecked madness of the majority of the leaders of the party.

The fact is the existence of the Democratic party is a standing menace to the business interests of the country. It stands opposed to the best interests of labor, for it would, if it had the power, drive manufacturing entirely out of the country. It is opposed to the best interests of agricultural products in this country, for it would give England the power to make the prices of our products. It is opposed to the interests of the capitalists for it would dry up all the uses of capital.

It would transfer our industries to England, and compel the skilled labor we have to be content with the starvation wages of English operatives. It would make America merely an agricultural country, at the mercy of the English manufacturer and capitalist.

The country is and has been during the continuance of Republican rule, prosperous. During that period it has made progress that the wildest visionary did not anticipate or hope for. It has filled up States sparsely settled, and made new ones. It has built railroads, established lines of communication, and developed manufactures miraculously. Cities and Towns have grown, and grown in a solid, substantial way, their increase of population being profitably employed. The farmer, mechanic and manufacturer have all prospered, and the era of prosperity has only commenced. Under a continuance of the same policy, the progress of the past 20 years cannot but continue.

Under the wise and prudently progressive rule of the Republican party the country has been made independent of foreign countries in hundreds of lines of necessities, and is capturing the others rapidly and surely. Our imports are daily decreasing and our exports increasing. In many lines of goods we are competing with our rivals in the markets of the world. Within 20 years we have emancipated ourselves from the thraldom of English manufacturers, and, so far as our own industries are concerned, are competing with them in fields outside.

All this the Democracy, led by CARLISLE and HURD, would reverse. They would do what England most desires, and what England, with money and influence, is trying to secure. It would cripple our existing manufactures and strangle those [illegible] while [illegible] hand in their infancy. It would [illegible] and foot, and put us back where we were 30 years ago, with the additional loss to the country of everything since invested.

In other respects a Democratic success is equally threatening. The party has no settled policy as to currency or anything else. It has as many ideas, almost, as there are Congressional Districts. The members of the Democratic Congress now in session have not been able to agree upon a single point of policy, and the only effect of their deliberations upon the business of the country has been to create a nervous feeling, a feeling of distrust and fear. This feeling will be intensified just in proportion as the party gains power to harm.

The Republican party has a policy and a well defined one. It is committed to honest money, faithful payment of the National debt, in money, improvement of the rivers and harbors, honest and economical administration, protection to American industry, and equal rights for all. It has had men in its ranks, and there is much yet to be done to correct abuses, but its head is set in the right direction, and it may confidently claim the control of the country in the future, by what it has accomplished in the past.

Under the rule of the one party nothing can be expected but wide spread disaster; under the rule of the other confidence, stability, and such measure of prosperity as good government can give us.

The people will never vote out Republicanism till the opposition offers it something better.

THE WATERBURY WATCH.

We are sending out hundreds of the Waterbury Watch daily, by mail, and they give more than satisfaction. This miracle of cheapness and excellence cannot be purchased anywhere for less than $3.50, but we send it by mail post paid, and the WEEKLY BLADE one year, for that sum. Get a postal note for $3.50, enclose it to the BLADE and you will receive the watch and the BLADE one year.

MUCH is expected of the speech of Hon. CUSH K. DAVIS, ex-Governor of Minnesota, who will present Mr. BLAINE'S name to the Convention. He has a great reputation as an orator, being said to combine a supreme command of language with a dignified presence and impassioned address.

THE New York *Tribune* London correspondent says that in spite of all the reticence of the Government in regard to the matter, the truth probably is that arrangements are quietly making to dispatch a force to Khartoum in July. Every effort is being made to hear from GEN. GORDON.

THE French are not extravagant even when they go to war. The Administration only asked for an appropriation of 38,500,000 francs—about $7,700,000—to to continue the war in Tonquin, and $1,000,000 for the Madagascar expedition.

THE New York *Journal* thinks it was a great mistake that business women were not invited to the meeting of business men at Cooper's Institute, the other evening.

THE people are reported as emigrating in considerable numbers from Cuba, because of the unsettled condition of the Island.

SEN. BOWEN, of Colorado, is reasonably sure that it will be ARTHUR.

PRES. ARTHUR'S STRENGTH.

The Washington managers of Pres. ARTHUR'S canvass for the nomination make the following figures, which they claim are entirely trustworthy:

States.	Certain.	Probable.
Alabama	19	..
Arkansas	14	..
Delaware	1	..
Florida	8	..
Georgia	24	4
Indiana	10	2
Illinois	4	4
Iowa	5	4
Kansas	6	..
Kentucky	20	..
Louisiana	16	..
Maryland	6	4
Michigan	6	7
Minnesota	5	3
Mississippi	17	1
Missouri	10	4
Massachusetts	8	4
Nebraska	4	2
New Hampshire	6	2
New Jersey	6	8
New York	35	5
North Carolina	22	..
Ohio	2	4
Pennsylvania	14	3
Rhode Island	4	4
South Carolina	18	..
Tennessee	21	..
Texas	10	8
Virginia	24	..
Wisconsin	10	4
Dakota	..	2
District of Columbia	1	1
Idaho	2	..
Montana	1	..
New Mexico	1	1
Utah	2	..
Wyoming	2	..
Total	375	81
Grand total		456

They deny most energetically that there is any disaffection among the the Southern delegates. There have been from the first 1 anti-Arthur man in the Alabama delegation, 1 doubtful in the Mississippi delegation, 8 doubtful in Texas, and 3 doubtful in Tennessee and in Kentucky, but this disaffection has not been increased of late, but rather the reverse, as several of the Southern delegates, who at first had predilections for BLAINE, have become anti-Blaine.

MR. PULLMAN'S SERMON.

Few people at the present time will deny the right, nay more, the duty of the minister to advise his people as to the morals of actions in public life, or of men who have been prominently before the people thus rendering themselves examples for imitation. That his teaching should be devoid of acrimony is also true. That personal prejudice should not be allowed to enter cannot be gainsaid. That his remarks should be temperate in tone and character while leaving no doubt as to sentiment which animated him is certain. His aim should be to teach principles, and if he is wise he can do this without giving offense

The Rev. J. M. PULLMAN, of New York, forgot the rules that should govern his utterances last Sunday, and delivered a sermon in which he attributed to Gen. GRANT absolutely criminal motives in his connection with the firm whose failure has been so disastrous to himself and family. He conveys the idea that Gen. GRANT is a swindler, and that his conduct should be looked upon in that light.

Mr. PULLMAN made a mistake. Besides forgetting the plain duty of a minister to put the best construction instead of the worst upon conduct of whose motive powhe knows nothing, he attacked a man whose services to his country must always set him apart in the hearts of the people, who will be loath to believe ill of him under any circumstances. Gen. GRANT is not a business man. It would be hard to find one single venture of his own that proved successful. It is not side [illegible] that he was contented with what strange [illegible] der [illegible] would yield him a good income without responsibility. Right here was his [illegible] He had no right to give the use of a name so honored by a whole Nation, which would command thousands of dollars by its very presence anywhere, to a man who has shown himself to be a most unscrupulous speculator. Of course Gen. GRANT never dreamed of such transactions, but he should not have placed himself in a position where there was even a possibility of a smirch upon his fair fame—where the confidence which people had in him could be made the instrument of their robbing. It was a mistake in judgment and not a criminal act, as Mr. PULLMAN would have his people believe. His sermon would seem to aim at the sensational rather than to the doing of good to his hearers.

THE proposition to appropriate $30,000 to encourage silk-worm culture should be adopted without fail. In the near future silk growing will be of more importance to this country than cotton growing is at present. It is the only hope of an extensive region in the South. Cotton can not be grown in the greater part of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee to compete with the fat lands along the Mississippi, nor the cereals to compete with Kansas, Nebraska and the great Northwest. They can, however, raise silk, for the mulberry tree is indigenous there, and there is simply no end to the amount they could produce or the country consume.

ACCORDING to a correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, the English, with all their fear of dynamite, are not very careful in examining baggage arriving from this country. Five boxes of fruit preserves were passed over without being opened. They might have been full of dynamite.

THE affirmation that a woman cannot keep a secret is disproved in the person of REBECCA JONES who so obstinately refuses to be a witness in the Hammersley will case in New York. She has finally been committed to jail for contempt of court and declares she will stay there forever rather than yield. Few people in thi world have such a faithful servant.

BEN BUTLER has accepted another nomination for the Presidency—this time of the Anti-Monopolist party, whatever that may be. If these things were wood BEN would soon have enough of them to shingle a house, or fence in his front yard, and so make them of some use.

COFFEE and cigars seem to be used without limit in the United States. The importation of coffee last year averaged 10½ pounds to the individual, and 60 cigars were made, imported and consumed for every man, woman and child in the land.

THE London *Times* asserts that the African International Association in Congo has led America into a false position. It made one kind of representations to her in the negotiations and something entirely different to France.

FRANCE means to be ready for war as well as Germany. The former has now in process of construction four large ironclads, while the latter, having thoroly fortified the principal strategic points after an approved model, has taken the minor ones in hand.

REALISM.

Certain reformers in Chicago seem determined that the people there shall know just how much vice exists in the City and what appearance it puts on to outsiders. On Sunday one of the leading ministers preached a discourse, or rather gave a description of the gambling dens of Chicago from personal observation, having, as he said, made an exploration of them with a guide, for that purpose. In burning, eloquent words he told of what he saw, picturing the inside of the different grades, from the grand palatial rooms down to the low den of horrors often the scene of murderous violence.

On the same day the *Tribune* gave a list of the principal gambling hells of the City, with their location and attractions.

Both of these things claimed to be, and probably were in the interest of morality. Their object was to warn people away from dangers that were present to all who enter these places and encountered their fascinations. The question comes up, however, and very strongly, whether more harm is not done by this sensational sort of teaching than good. Listening to the vivid word pictures of the minister, many a boy or young man would find his imagination aroused, and the desire grown strong to see these things for himself, and he would satisfy his conscience with the idea that the minister went into such scenes for curiosity's sake, and why should not he.

In truth, there is too much of this realistic preaching and writing for the good of the community. The minute descriptions of vice and crime which are given at length every day, and which have come now to be an absolute demand of the public that must be satisfied, are not improving to the moral sense. They do not elevate and purify, but on the contrary be base, and the more vivid and sentimental the style the worse the effect.

It is the same in the pulpit, and it is indeed very questionable whether the least good was ever yet accomplished, by such a proceeding as that spoken of. No doubt the minister believed that it might benefit his hearers to know that the horrors which he saw with his own eyes were true, but that it did is exceedingly doubtful. As the Chicago *Journal* says in speaking of this sermon:

The pastor can probably do more good by preaching "Christ and Him crucified" than by describing the gambler and him glorified.

TO NON-SUBSCRIBERS.

In response to requests from many of our friends, this number of the BLADE will be received by many persons who are not subscribers. We ask all such to examine the paper in all its departments as critically and carefully as possible, and, if it pleases them, to enroll themselves as subscribers. We claim for it that it is the best family paper published, and the cheapest. One dollar per year, or three months 30 cents, post paid. It circulates in every State and Territory in the Union, and goes to almost every Postoffice. Try it, at all events. And, by the way, notice the offer of the Waterbury watch, and the splendid engraving of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," in connection with the paper.

GERMANY has adopted a law which provides for paying subsidies to lines of ocean steamships sailing under the German flag. Prussia was the first country of Europe to follow the example of England in abolishing her navigation laws. The result was a marked decline in her mercantile marine. Her ships could not compete with those of a nation, which has spent half a billion of dollars [illegible] of the National treasury in creating those steamship-lines which give her merchants especial advantages in competing for the trade of the world. Two years ago France abandoned the notion that she could secure a merchant marine without cost to the nation, and offered heavy subsidies. Her success no doubt has been encouraging Germany to follow her example.

THERE is no mistaking the fact that there is a general revival of prosperity in the iron and steel business. This has an especial value, because the iron and steel business always leads all the other industries in either direction—up or down. The defeat of the Morrison Tariff bill removed all fear of disastrous interference, and the enforced idleness of the past few months has exhausted all the stocks on hand, so that there is an actual pressure for the resumption of active operations.

THE morganatic marriage complication with Queen VICTORIA'S son-in-law and the handsome but frail Madame threatens to become a scandal-monging match between the Queen and the Princess. The Queen threatens to ventilate the Princess's record, and the latter, who is a lady of mettle, intimates that she will also have something to say about people who live in glass houses.

THE Chicago *News* gives currency to a vile campaign slander when it says that Sen. EDMUNDS was particularly cordial toward the members of the American Medical Association whom he met at Washington, "because," says the graceless gossip, "he owns the biggest tombstone quarry in Vermont."

STEAMSHIPS out of Montreal are offering to take wheat in ballast free of cost. Yet people wonder why we dot not revive our merchant marine, and invest hundreds of millions that we need for railroads and factories, in the unprofitable business of ocean-carrying.

GRAVE apprehensions are felt of a strike in the coal regions because of the determination of the Reading railroad to pay its working men in scrip, which they are equally determined not to accept. It is to be hoped the matter will be adjusted.

THE report of the Bureau of the Ordnance of the Army is a curious affair. It treats principally of brushes and the query is what they have to do with the fighting instruments of our soldiers.

IF BERTHA CLEAR, who married the "Living Skeleton," had not been in such haste to repent of her bad bargain, it would have been money in her pocket. He died just after she got the divorce, and left a fortune of $50,000.

IT is a good thing to know that the shaking of the hands of the Sage of Grammercy Park is entirely due to a "nervous affection," and not to "paralysis or palsy." It must be cheering news to the Democratic party.

A SHERIFF down in New York State went to stop a prize fight the other day, but got so interested in the proceedings that he stopped and looked on until it was over and then immediately arrested the principals.

MR. DODD, the President of the Newark, New Jersey, Savings Bank, loaned $2,881,682 of the hard earnings of the depositors to Fiske & Hatch, profession al stock-gamblers, who bet it on stock margins and lost most of it. When the news reached the depositors there was a frightful excitement in Newark, The New York *World* describe the scene:

Weeping women, wringing their hands and gesticulating wildly, besieged the doors of the defunct Newark Savings Institution all day yesterday from dawn until night, and the wildest excitement again prevailed.

"My God!" exclaimed one woman to a policeman that was keeping back the crowd, "I have nearly $300 in that bank. It's all in the world I have. My husband is sick and we have five children at home crying for something to eat. Our landlord has threatened to put us out, and I came to draw enough money to pay him and buy food." She sat down on the curbstone and burst into tears.

Such stories and such scenes were too common. Sometimes over 100 tear-stained faces were seen, but tears were nothing. Some strong workingmen were there, and they sat or stood about in silence, their faces stamped with despair, and others shouted and cursed and were for storming the building and dragging the robbers out into the street and giving them to the crowd.

Late in the day many of the crowd were induced to go home, but as they turned away they wept, for they had been told that at the best they would lose half the hard savings of years.

Toledo has witnessed two scenes of this nature, one when KRAUS & SMITH closed their doors, and the other when CYRUS H. COY failed. Poor WILLIAM KRAUS, who was more sinned against than sinning, died of a broken heart, but Mr. COY is living and in good health. He will not die of a broken heart, on the contrary, he will soon be seen on the deck of the good ship "Waite," enjoying the cooling breezes of the lake. There is much difference in men.

THE steamer *Faraday* in the service of the Commercial Cable Company, arrived at Rockport, Mass., the other day, with the shore end of the new Atlantic cable, and was announced to the villagers by the booming of cannon and the ringing of church and fire-alarm bells. The entire population turned out on the beach, and soon the water was alive with all kinds of craft. Many people also were present from adjacent villages. The *Faraday* anchored within half a mile of Long Beach, and the cable was taken ashore on three large rafts, and a pontoon of boats, 691 futhoms of cable being laid out between the steamer and the shore. On being landed the shore end was made fast at the cable house, and a salute of 50 guns was fired. The Commercial Cable Company, which is laying the new submarine cables, was organized last yea by JAMES GORDON BENNETT and JOHN W. MACKAY, and none of the stock has been offered to the public. Two lines of cable will be laid between Valentia, on the southwestern coast of Ireland, and Dover Bay, on the southeastern coast of Nova Scotia. From Dover Bay one line will reach Boston, by way of Rockport, Mass., while the other line will be landed at Coney Island, connection being had with New York by means of an underground wire. The cables were made by the Messrs. SIEMENS, near Woolwich, Eng., the makers of four of the six Atlantic cables last laid down. The new cables are said to be the best, most expensive and heaviest ever made. The average weight of the copper conductor is 450 pounds per nautical mile, and of the gutta-percha insulator 300 pounds. The average weight of the entire cable—conductor, insulator, jute cushion, composition [illegible] and steel shield—is five tons per nautical mile, while the shore ends will sometimes run to 20 tons per mile. The breaking strain of the shield of steel wire is 90 tons to the square inch, which is said to be the highest point yet reached by cable manufacturers. The total length of the two cables will be over 6,000 miles. Of the eight cables now in use, four were laid in 1869, 1872, 1873 and 1874, and four in 1880 and 1881.

IN the Twenty-First District of Louisiana the Bourbon bulldozers have given the certificate of election and commission as Judge to FRED GATES (Democrat), who was defeated at the polls, excluding Judge THEODROE FONTINELLEAU, also a Democrat, who received an honest majority of the votes cast at the late election. The McEnery Ring Returning Board "fixed" the false returns showing GATES' election, by counting for him 900 votes in a parish which was almost entirely under water election day, and in which not 20 legal votes were polled. The Governor of Louisiana called out the State trooops last Saturday in order to protect GATES in holding court at New Iberia, which the defrauded and outraged majority of the voters threatened to prevent. There probably was no serious danger of a riot, but the people who were the victims of the bulldozers' fraud, by which the lawfully elected Judge was prevented from holding the office, were justified in using strong, if not menacing language.

SEN. SHERMAN'S friends say that BLAINE is seeking an alliance with him and that several invitations have been received by him for a conference with BLAINE, which he has steadfastly declined. SHERMAN prefers to go into the Convention and take his chances without any combinations or intrigues to embarrass him, and he does not want the nomination unless it comes unsought, and does not expect his name to be presented unless he shall have the Ohio delegation solid at his back. His friends now say that he has all the Ohio delegation but six and a fair prospect to bring the rest into line.

THE socialistic outrage which recently occurred at Munich, caused great indignation, but it showed how daring socialism is becoming. Preparations for the celebration of the 13th anniversary of Germany's victory over France had been made, with triumphal arches, flags and streamers, among which German colors were prominent. In the night these were removed and revolutionary flags and mottos were put in their places. Of course they were changed again in the morning, but the socialists had expressed their feelings.

MURAT HALSTEAD indignantly denies that he met with CHARLES EMORY SMITH, of the Philadelphia *Press*, at New York, or anywhere, to arrange about deserting BLAINE, and taking up SHERMAN.

CLEVELAND is agitating the project of an industrial exposition in that City.

SEN. HOAR is talked of as the Chairman of the Convention.

THERE are now in the United States 34,873 deaf mutes.

CURRENT EVENTS.

In the Indiana contested election case of English, son of the late Democratic candidate for Vice President, against Peelle, the sitting member, the House seated English—130 to 127—after an exciting debate and several votes. English has no claim whatever to the seat, except that his father spent money liberally in the canvass, and demanded that his son should be seated, in order that he might get a portion of his money back. A Committee has been appointed to investigate the matter, but it is not supposed that any further action will be taken.——The schedule for mail service between New York and the City of Mexico allows for six days and 23 hours between the Cities, seven days and one hour returning.——The Independents of New York will support Edmunds as long as there is a chance of his nomination.——Ex-Pres. Polk's widow, now 80 years old is living a quiet life in Nashville, Tenn. From the library of the dead President she can gaze upon the tomb that marks his resting place, and in the same library remain his hat, gloves and cane, just where he laid them when he came home for the last time. The book he was reading lies open on the table, and the papers of the day beside it.——Edward Hanlan beat Laycock half a length in the sculling match in Australia.——The steamer "Faraday" landed the shore end of the Bennett-Mackey cable at Rockport, Mass., Friday, and sailed away to make a splice at a buoy 250 miles to the northeast. She will next pay out 1,000 miles in a deep sea section.——Isaac M. Veitch, a distinguished citizen of St. Louis, died suddenly Thursday afternoon, aged 66. He had just delivered a speech to the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Missouri, dropped into his office and expired before medical aid arrived.——Gen. Stone has completed the foundation on Bedloe's Island for the Bartholdi statue. The foundation is 91 feet square at the base, 67 feet square at the top and 52 feet and 10 inches high, and is described as the largest artificial stone ever made. Gen. Stone says he will risk his reputation as an engineer upon its fitness to be the support of a statue that ought to stand for centuries.——Queen Victoria has 19 granddaughters.——Charles O'Connor is supposed to have left an estate of $1,000,000.——Tom Thumb's widow is being courted again and by a man five foot tall.——The Council of Nebraska Diocese, Protestant Episcopal Church, on the 22d ballot elected Rev. Dr. Worthington, of Detroit, Bishop of Nebraska, in place of Bishop Clarkson, deceased.——Gen. Grant has mortgaged his Washington property to partially secure Vanderbilt for his $150,000 loan. He has also mortgaged other property for the same purpose.——The celebration of the 500th anniversary of the death of Wycliffe, the "Morning Star of the Reformation," was concluded in London by a great public meeting in Exeter Hall. It was resolved at the meeting to raise a fund of $50,000 for the publication and spread of Wycliffe's writings. The Rev. Mr. Hughes, who made a speech on the occasion, said that Spurgeon, Moody and Gen. Booth, who represent Wycliffe's teachings, wielded more influence over the English-speaking Christian world than all the priests in the Churches in England put together. This declaration was loudly applauded.——A memorial window, the gift of an American citizen, has been placed in a church at Haworth, England, "to the glory of God, and in memory of Charlotte Bronte."——The net profits of the Western Union Telegraph Company for the year ended December 31, 1883, were $6,642,513, from which dividends amounting to 7 per cent. were paid. The surplus for the year was $577,046.——Lieut. Abercrombie will next month leave Portland, Oregon, with an expedition to investigate the resources of Alaska. He expects to travel about 5,000 miles by November, making a collection of furs and minerals and taking photographs of the country.——The new Colonial Bank of Hamburg, Germany, will have a capital of 30,000,000 marks, with power to increase it to 60,000,000. The bank is forbidden to issue notes, to deal in its

Correspondence.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.

A Glimpse of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, The Metropolis of the North—Its Smoke and Fog—Its Busy Streets and Imposing Buildings.

Special Correspondence of the Blade.

On his first arrival in Newcastle the stranger is almost invariably very unfavorably impressed. The view from the High Level Bridge, one of the most famous in England, and by the way one of Stephenson's greatest engineering triumphs, is not reassuring. As the train rolls slowly over it he looks down upon a great cloud of dullish gray smoke, through which struggle innumerable red-tiled, sharp-pointed roofs, surmounted by chimney-pots of all conceivable hights. Scattered all over the City rise graceful spires to churches that would show under the gloomy canopy. This is the first aspect of the City, and a too momentary glance down the River Tyne shows the cause of the funereal pall. As far as the eye can reach, on both sides, the river is lined with great factories, iron works and rolling mills, all pouring out dense volumes of smoke, an obliterating smoke that hurries along with the strong breeze from the coast to bury the old City above.

But this unfavorable impression does not last long after one has had time to look about and discover what is there. It is the place to make it attractive and interesting. I must confess that I was ashamed of my ignorance of Newcastle, its wonderful situation, its vast business enterprise and the great

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

It bears to the outside world. Of course I knew it was a great coal center, that it was no insignificant port, and that it had a population of about a hundred and fifty thousand people. But I was not prepared to see such broad streets, perfectly paved, lined with substantial blocks of business houses, a quay at which vessels from all over the world were loading and unloading, beautiful parks and I dares, to-wit even in the dead of Winter, and as I say I was ashamed of my ignorance until a good friend, a true representative of the whole scaled, hearty Northumbrian, assured me that I need not have any such feeling, for, in spite of its antiquity, in spite of the important part Newcastle played in the history of England since the days of the old Romans, to whom the City owes its origin, and more especially since the days of William the Conqueror and the border troubles which followed, in spite of all this the people of the South of England know as little, if not less about Newcastle than I did.

"Indeed," said my friend, "it was only last Fall that a friend of mine from London, he was of a high family, too, wrote me on the occasion of a hunting visit near Edinburgh, saying that he would spend a day or two with me here, in Newcastle, and then would cross over into *England* and go on up to London. You, at least, knew that Newcastle was not in Scotland."

And I find this statement about the Southern people knowing so little about these northern countries, universally corroborated. Result, the good people of Newcastle

RATHER LOOK DOWN

Upon their southern brethren, and pride themselves on their knowledge of all the cities in the kingdom. They boast that the Tyne is the greatest river in all Great Britain, and, in some respects, in the world. The Clyde, they acknowledge, builds a more expensive class of vessels, but they point with pride to the annual returns just published, which show that the aggregate tonnage launched on the Tyne and the ports in this immediate vicinity during the year 1883 is far in excess of that of the far-famed Clyde. But the Tyne must not be touched upon at this point. It is by far too important to be made a paragraph of. It must have a whole letter to itself.

Newcastle is on the north side of the River Tyne, eight miles from the North Sea, and has most excellent facilities for communication with the outside world. All the Cities in the Kingdom are within easy access by rail, and the Tyne affords an outlet to all the ports of the world. In the very heart of the great region of the North of England, manufactories and rolling mills were early established here, and they have done more than any other one thing to make Newcastle the important City it is. It was during

THE REIGN OF HENRY III.

In 1239, that the vast mineral wealth of Northumberland County was opened out, although at that time no one realized what an important part coal would play in the history of not only Northumberland but all England. The importance of Newcastle as a port for the distribution of coal was recognized at a very early date, for in 1350 history mention is made of a vessel trading in 1325 to Newcastle from France and returning laden with coal. To-day her vessels load at her docks and steam to all the known ports of the world.

The steady march of progress has in a measure despoiled Newcastle of the quaintness its age would lead one to expect. It is only here and there that that the Antiquarian, loving and cherishing such things, can point out an old gate in the wall which

SURROUND THE BOROUGH

from its earliest days, but which have almost entirely disappeared now, walls that were built between the reigns of Edward I and Edward III, and speaking of which Leland says, "the strength an magnificence of the building of this town far surpasseth all the walls of the Cities of England and most the towns of Europe." The old Castle, built by Robert, eldest son of the Conqueror, in 1080 and afterwards enlarged and strengthened between the years 1172-1177 still stands in a state of good preservation; and there are portions of the old gates, more or less ravaged by Old Time, together with a few of the ows dating back over five hundred years. But these old landmarks, full of historic interest are rapidly disappearing, and in their places are rising fine business blocks and magnificent residences.

Grey street is probably the handsomest in the City, and it would do credit to any City. At the top of this magnificent thoroughfare stands a monument,

A LOFTY COLUMN

surmounted by a heroic figure, to Earl Grey, Prime Minister of England at the time of the passing of the Reform bill and the emancipation of slaves in the British Colonies. A short distance from the monument is the Royal Theater, the chief ornament to the street. It has a lofty portico extending over the sidewalk, consisting of six massive Corinthian columns placed on pedestals, surrounded by an enriched pediment bearing the Royal coat of arms. The building itself is very massive, the style being a modification of that of the Pantheon at Rome. Further down the street is the branch of the Bank of England, a solid, substantial edifice, the lower story being of rustic masonry on which are nine Corinthian columns and two pilasters which again support an entablature finished with a double row of balustrades. The whole street from the monument to the beginning of Dean street, is filled with fine blocks of massive proportions and elaborate architectural effects, some of the finest shops in the City are situated in Grey street.

They have a curious way here of breaking off a street very suddenly and giving it a new name. Thus Grey street, at the intersection of Mosley, ceases to be Grey and becomes Dean street, although Dean is clearly but a continuation of Grey. Dean street slopes quite sharply down towards the flat banks of the river, and was

IN THE OLDEN TIMES

a dene, or ravine, through which one of the numerous streams that drained the Valley, flowed down between the high banks and emptied into the Tyne. Now it is a busy street, affording the most direct route from the busy quays to the central portion of the Town, though it was not till 1787 that it was given up to business, having been, up to that time, just a residence street. Off Dean street the quaint old house is shown where Mark Akenside, the author of "Pleasures of the Imagination," was born. It has recently been restored, but still retains a great deal of its old time appearance. Further along is the house from which the ill-fated of Lord Eldon made her escape through a window in 1772. The house has never been changed, and the window through which the indiscreet Miss Surtees passed to the arms of her lover is still pointed out. There are a great many very old and curious buildings in and about Dean street, a full description of which will be left for another time.

Standing on the southeast corner of Grey and Mosley street there is a very picturesque view. Directly in front Dean street slopes sharply down to the side, in a second-cite form. High above the roofs of the houses, with their

HIGH POINTED GABLES,

and innumerable chimney pots, and standing out grim and rugged against the smoke-laden air that make the dull gray sky more heavy and forbidding, is a massive arch on which a branch of the Northeastern Railway crosses the old Dene.

Diagonally across is the large handsome edifice occupied by the National Provincial Bank, while further along Mosley street the graceful spire of St. Nicholas' Cathedral rears its many pinnacled spire. Looking up Grey street the imposing monument of Earl Grey makes a fine background for the curvalinear rows of massive buildings that line it on either side.

Up to within 20 years ago all that part of the City lying near the Central Railway station was a confused labyrinth of narrow crooked lanes, not deserving the name of streets. Though the instrumentality of the late Richard Grainger all of that portion of the town was torn down, the old, squalid houses removed, new streets, wide and broad laid out, and new buildings of a modern style of architecture erected; so that to-day that is one of the most attractive parts of Newcastle.

THE CENTRAL STATION

is said to be one of the most elegant and commodious in the Kingdom. The style is old Roman, giving the building an appearance of great solidity combined with beauty. In front there is an immense portico, which greatly adds to the general effect. All the railways entering Newcastle make use of this station, and the passenger platform which covers an area of three acres presents a lively appearance at any hour of the day or night.

From the station Grainger street leads straight to Grey's monument from which wide, well paved streets branch off in every direction. The

RESIDENCE PORTION OF THE CITY.

is in the north end of Town, where the growth of has been very rapid during the past 10 years. Great taste is being shown in the improvement of the grounds and in the construction of the houses. There are long streets filled with large mansions setting well back in the yards, which are very prettily laid out and ornamented with flower pots, trees and curious shrubs. In the matter of naming streets the officials show a remarkable lack of invention. For instance, you leave All Saints Church, and for a block you walk along Lovaine Row. At the end of that block you enter Lovaine Place, which is a long street; but two or three blocks from the Row you strike Lovaine Crescent, which, at the end of another two blocks, puts you into Lovaine Terrace, and so it is all over the City. There are always three or four streets, or bits of streets, bearing the same name, distinguished, the one from the other, by the word row, place, park, terrace, etc. This is especially the case in the residence portion of the Town.

Down about the quay and the older part of the City, the narrow streets, or alleys, more accurately speaking, still bear the names that were given them in the days of long ago, and strange enough they sound well now, though they have done duty for hundreds of years, and will in all probability serve as long as the streets last. Trinity Chare is a narrow street in which is situated Trinity House, once a large and powerful corporation which controlled to a great extent the shipping of the Tyne. The house is in a good state of preservation and is one of the sights of Newcastle. Further along the quay is Sandon Chare, which leads through the Dog Bank to the Butcher Bank, one side of which was destroyed by the great fire in 1854. Painter Heugh, a short street, takes its name from Painter, a rope by which boats are moored, and Heugh, a steep hill. Going towards St. Nicholas' we come to Pudding Chare, a very narrow but extremely busy thoroughare, in which there are all kinds of shops, mostly patronized by the lower classes. The origin of the peculiar name this street bears is wrapped in mystery. The word Chare, signifying street, is purely of Newcastle coinage, and cannot be satisfactorily accounted for. A writer on old Newcastle, from whom I have had many interesting facts, in speaking of this street says: "Before the destruction of the last New Markets, to make way for Mr. Grainger's improvements, the venders of black puddings had their stalls in the street, and importuned each passer by to purchase. Many persons from the country, pitmen especially, made a comfortable meal off a penny roll and a black pudding." The following is from Brockett's Glossary: "Black Pudden—A pudding made of blood, suet, oatmeal, etc., stuffed into the intestines of a pig or sheep." I take notice of this word because this savory and poquant delicacy is a standing dish among the common people of the North, and it affords me an opportunity of rescuing from oblivion the peculiar cries of the present venders of the *boudin orientale*. In short, fat pudden, smoken het; a nice, black pudden, man? A nice het pudden hinnie. A nice, fet pudden, smoken het, maw jewel!

Among some of the other peculiar names of streets are the following: Amen Corner, Bird in Bush Yard, Cowgate Darn Crook, Dogleap Stairs, Folly st., Jubilee Road, Noah's Ark, Plummer's Chare, Skinner's Burn, Todd's Nook, Zion Court. Of course the majority of these are but little lanes of large extent, though some of them are quite large and well built up. The origin of these peculiar names has been entirely lost, though the names themselves furnish some clue to their meaning.

The writer above quoted speaks of the loss of vender's cries. He need not have any fear of their becoming obsolete. They are heard all over the City to-day, though perhaps the sale of "black pudden" has fallen off.

During the latter part of January and the first of March of the present year oranges were very cheap. Every afternoon, especially Saturday, Grainger street would resound with such cries as this; "Ere y'ere hinnie, nice sweet oranges, a'sweet, a'sweet. Twa fer a penny, hinnie, er five fer a tuppence." And the oranges would be thrust in your face by gress, fat, jolly women or little slips of girls, who stood shivering in the cold northeast wind, while they continually sang out, "A' sweet, twa fer a penny, hinnie, er five fer a tuppence." Then they have another cheerful habit here of crying coal through the streets. Grate coal is done up in bags, holding about a bushel, loaded on a wagon and hawked through the streets. The men and boys, there are always two or three of them and they take turns in yelling at the top of their voices, and in the most ear-piercing manner conceivable, "Coals pu—t 1-1-i-i-n." No printed signs can convey the horrible noise they make in uttering these three words. It goes through one like a knife, and even after the cries are out of hearing the diabolical flourish with which they wind up the last word lingers with you and haunts you the rest of the day. Then there are fish women and they have their peculiar cries more horrible, if possible, than the coal sellers. The broken glass man is abroad, too, so that there is not much danger, for the present at least, of the Northumbrian cries being forgotten. I think I shall remember them the longest day I live.

The peculiar dialect of of the pitmen and lower classes deserves a special chapter by itself, but I can't resist giving a verse of a favorite song I heard the other day, a song of a Newcastle keelman who is looking at St. James's Palace in London, when George III. appears. To be fully appreciated it should be heard, but the words themselves are not bad:

Ah, Hinnies! out com the King while we were there,
His leuks seem'd to say, "Bairns be happy!"
Saw down o' my hunkers aw set up a blare,
For the tid to preserve him from Nappy.
For Georgy aw did dee—for my loyalty's trig,
And aw own he's a geud-looking mannie;
But if wor Sir Mathew ye buss iv his wig,
By gocks! He wad leuk just as canny.

R. L.

Davis County, Kansas.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade.

Perhaps a few lines from this part of our young and prosperous State might be of interest to some of your many readers. I submit to them a few facts in regard to our County: The geographical center of the United States is in this County, near Fort Riley. This portion of Kansas is a great wheat growing section; all kinds of wheat does well here, especially the Russian; a common yield for it is from 30 to 45 bushels per acre. Mr. J. B. Morris, a neighbor of mine, grew 262 bushels of this variety on five acres.

The richness of our soil seems almost inexhaustible, from the fact that the older the land is the better crop it produces. Land that has raised its 20th crop in succession produces as well now as ever and without the use of fertilizers. Crops of all kinds grow equally well here. It is also a fine fruit country. I have never yet seen a wormy apple grown here, and have lived here for seven years. My former residence was in Owosso, Mich. Real estate here is advancing very rapidly in value, good farms are selling for $30 to $50 per acre. I have read a great many weekly papers but the BLADE I think is the best of them all.

LEFRUYN DEARMON.

Wreford, Davis Co., Kans.

Decatour Mining District.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade.

While sitting in the solitudes of a smoky miners cabin, I will pen you a few lines, for this part of the inhabited universe, Decatour Mining District, of which we are speaking, is situated and lying 40 miles west of Alamosa and three miles south of the celebrated Summitville mines of Rio Grande County. Tis true the district is young, but from the indications the huge apex of veins looming up above the surface would naturally indicate that they were inexhaustable. The veins are heavily impregnated with iron, mostly gold bearing at the surface, running per assay all the way from $5 to $750 per ton of 2,000 pounds. It would seem from the above results that the capital, judiciously laid out and manipulated with care, would certainly reward the investor, but as it is at present the ore has to be shipped to Denver or Pueblo for treatment, and as the present holders are not wealthy, all tends to make dull times.

S. HUGHES, Blainville, Colo.

NEW ORLEANS.

Beauties of the Southern Metropolis—The West End and Spanish Fort Gardens—Preparations for the Great World's Exposition, etc.

To the Editor of the Blade:

What a corner! How cool and balmy this breeze, curling the smooth surface of Pont Chartrin, on the border of which your correspondent feels compelled to lighten his overflowing bosom and communicate his raptures over the novelty and charming character of the unwonted surroundings to his Northern friends. Perched on an artificial rockwork in the shade of a live oak, with flowering magnolias, roses of all hues and forms, heliotropes, large white lilies and numerous other fragrant flowers spreading their odor around me, I will endeavor to depict my impressions of this novel scene.

I admit that this is my first visit to a locality as far south as New Orleans, and that, although familiar with the landscape gardening, the horticulture and floriculture of our American and European cities and their parks, my recent arrival from the colder North, where our trees just begun to develop their buds, has made me more impressive, but I cannot help saying that I never beheld a lovelier sight than I behold right here, at the entry of the pleasure walk near McCloskey's restaurant and the Astredo House, one of the many places of attraction on this grand resort, called West End, about seven miles west of New Orleans. The bold and at the same time fantastic manner, in which, in a minimum place of three or four square rods, fountains, basins with fish and pond vegetation, rock work with arches, promontories, precipices, waterfalls and a wild but still symmetrical and harmoniously arranged vegetation of palms, from the Spanish dagger to the broad fan-palm, the English ivy to the tiny lobelia, the broad leaved rubber plant to the glossy dwarf box, including the delicately shaped Southern varieties of arbor vitae and cedar, have been grouped together, not only betokens a master hand and lavish expenditures, but needs also just such genial climate, that not even in Winter produces a sere leaf on all this beautiful vegetation. But here comes the gardener: A beautiful place! Shakes his head. Splendid flowers! *Italiano mais jeparle Francais.* O how I made him talk and explain even the intricacies of the labyrinth of baxus, taxus, rhododendron, euonymus, jessamine, live-oak, etc., into which nearly every stranger much more easily finds the entry than the egress, especially as some Northern scamp conceived the idea of complicating matters by running several strains of cactus wire through all the winding hedges of this now impenetrable labyrinth. A narrow strip of land, about one-half mile long, with winding walks, arbors and carriage drive extend apparently right into the lake, and bathing establishments on a large scale are seen on the right and left of this lovely piece of ground, which finally proves to be connected with the main land by a narrow strip. But how much beauty is crowded on this strip, scarcely 10 rods wide! Grecian statues in bronze, Hebe, Venus, Minerva, Bachantes, Nymphs, lions and deer; on rocks or as centers of shubbery. Foliage plants, carpet flower beds, rose groups, surprise the newcomer pleasantly, now emerging from a shaded walk, then a dark grotto, or a dense bower. Ah, but the lizards! In an elderly lady tries to pacify a pretty girl, who, reaching out for a jessamine flower, had a lizzard drop on her outstretched hand. The innocent little animals (I used to take them in my mouth, when a boy, just for fun,) sit perched on a broad leaf, a dry twig, or a rail, everywhere, and frighten only the Northern visitors. Toney's restaurant, Trassaire's ladies' parlors, shooting galleries, cold beer, buttermilk, Piper Heidsick, and singular names appearing through the arbors or shrubbery and across the carriage road, remind your writer that something more material than flowers or ornamental trees might interest the home reader. Only 15 cents for a 14 mile ride from New Orleans, and back to all this loveliness! Beer but five cents a glass, music furnished gratis; cigars 15 cents each, or two for a quarter. Admission to the splendid opera hall (there are two or three of them around here) only 25 cents. Each piece has at least three or four acts, and the pauses are made one-half to three-quarters of an hour, when everybody leaves the hall to cool off, and, well, and—do as he pleases.

It appeared to me strange that I was the only one that could walk alone, everybody else seemed to have some weak female to support. I must have been that they were to overcome by the music or electric light, they always sat down in the shade or took a gondola or boat to go fishing in the dark.

I may as well tell you about the Spanish fort also. This I visited yesterday. The fort is but an old building with a brick wall, defenses of angles and buttresses and is used as a boarding house, while in and all the restaurants, pavilions, bathing houses, verandas, pleasure grounds and bath houses belong to the same owner. Provided also with a spacious Opera Hall, it is the older rival for favors and attractions to West End, and aided by its historic fame, its grand old trees, alligator pond, and other wild beasts, its well-provided restaurants and coffee houses, it shares about equally the patronage of the New Orleans sojourner, with its modern West End.

The very irregularity of its landscape gardening, based on the existence of ancient landmarks in the form of magnolia and live oak trees, et ., its larger palms a headless Hebe, and the quaint old fort, where holes in the wall suggest the effects of cannon balls, throw a halo about this truly romantic spot, that a vivid imagination can readily recognize the proud Castilian senoras in the fleeting forms that glide along the shell walk and emerge from a dark bower in the bright electric light, hanging on the arms of the modern dudes or enter the gondolas to cross the styx of this elysium called "Crossing the Rhine," where the Teuton reigns supreme and King Gambrinus holds sway.

A formidable monster, a relic of the late unpleasantness, seems to have guarded this sacred river, as it was fished out there soon after the war. It is a torpedo of the submarine boiler explosion order, resembling a whale, with tails, fins, on blocks near the "Rhine." They say it is loaded yet and may go off at any time, so let us leave it and pay our compliments to New Orleans proper, a discription of which, even if I could, I surely would not undertake as everybody so inclined and provided should not fail to visit this glorious Southern metropolis during the next World's Exhibition, which, if indications do not deceive, will and must form the greatest aggregation of the products of our soil, our industries and arts, that the United States, if not the world, ever arrayed. The very grounds, bordering on the "Father of the Rivers," the great Mississippi, contain nearly 300 acres, and are the property of the city. In these grounds stood the old hospital also famous during the war. Of this was a huge cistern, designed to form at present a fountain basin, remains. The three groups of live oak trees, scattered over these grounds as remnants of the aboriginal forest, are the grandest specimens of this noble genus that your correspondent ever beheld, and, like the big trees of California, are well worth the trip to see them. Evergreen with shining foliage of a light green tint, they cover an circumference of 100 to 150 feet diameter, or a circumference of 400 to 500 feet each. About 100 of these forest giants, of over a thousand years of age, cover these grounds, and, ornamented with waving streamers of moss, often playfully arrayed in gay festoons by cajoling zephyrs, are a spectacle seldom, if ever, seen elsewhere. Thousands of visitors seek shelter under the shade of these giants, while the venders of cooling drinks, fruits and candies—Sunday as it was, May 11—enjoy a lively trade. Several new street car lines are completed, others are in progress, and even now all are crowded to overflowing by visitors to witness the progress of preparations for the World's Exposition, in December, 1884. Over 500 to 600 workmen are at present engaged in the erection of the various halls, one of which is said to cover 45 acres. On solid stone or timber foundations, the various structures, built of pine, the begin to loom up in grand dimensions. The out ward sections are all framed and partially sided. Over 1,000,000 feet of timber and lumber have been put up, and over 100,000 square feet are ready for the painter. A perfect babel, of which only repeated visits will leave an intelligent impression on the visitor. The energy displayed by the management, the grandeur of the preparations, the novelty of the season (December) and, above all, the great facilities and fascinations of the very trip over the Cincinnati Southern route, which stands second to none in the United States, all combine, in my humble opinion, to make this Exposition the *sine qua non* of our era In justice to the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railroad, running two daily trains, one morning and one evening train, with palace and sleeping cars attached, solid through from the Cincinnati Grand Central Depot to New Orleads in 30 hours, I must say that, although traveling all the time, I know of no road where politer conductors—my compliments to the venerable reverend Hall and the polite Kelly—or more accommodating other officials attend to the wants of their passengers. Always on time at any one station, cautious to call in the stragglers after magnolia flowers, rocks or other specimens, seeing to the ventilation of their superior cars, the dusting off of the seats, and giving the enquiring greenhorn all the information in their power, acknowleding a good cigar, whenever they get one; and keeping everything in good shape, they ingratiate themselves to the traveling public. This railroad, generally called the Cincinnati Southern, or the Queen and Crescent route, consists of three branches, with terminal points at Chattanooga (going from Cincinnati), Meridian, and New Orleans; but of this anon.

K.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Interesting Description of a Toledoan's Journey to the "Garden of Eden"—Mexican Towns on the Border—Customs and Peculiarities of the Natives—Across the American Desert—The Sand Storms—Los Angeles and Its Beautiful Surroundings, Etc.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., May 7, 1884.

I left Toledo Wednesday, April 16, just three weeks ago. It was cold and rainy, and snowed a little in the morning. I took the St. Louis Express for St. Louis, over the Wabash, and arrived in that City Thursday morning, bright and balmy. It was warm all day, and I enjoyed a drive in the parks, which were green and lovely. That evening I left for San Antonio, Tex., where I expected to join my family and journey on to the Pacific coast.

The country through which we passed, from Palestine, Tex., to Austin, is very beautiful. One vast prairie, green with grass, upon which herds of cattle and sheep feed to the number of hundreds of thousands of each. These scenes presented a great change from the chilly frost-seared North, and the flooded valleys of Arkansas, which was very pleasing. Arriving at San Antonio Sunday evening, I found Mrs. C. and all my friends well and glad to see me. We spent Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in that City and left for El Paso on the Rio Grande, 641 miles west. Mrs. C.'s health was so much improved while at San Antonio that she quite fell in love with the climate. It is a hard place socially, there being 35,000 population, of which fully one-half are Mexicans of a low type of civilization. Guilded gambling houses and dens of vice flourish on the main streets unmolested by the authorities. Cowboys, thieves and robbers go about known to all, without the slightest fear of arrest or punishment by the authorities. San Antonio is said to be the largest and most thriving City in the State. Supplies of all kinds are distributed throughout a section of country equal to two large States from here. Ranchmen come here to sell their wool and herds and buy supplies. It is an expensive place to do business in, yet the merchants are very prosperous. The climate is warm and the most of the time very dry. The scarcity of water for irrigating purposes makes it difficult to raise much produce, but with water vegetation grows very rapidly and with great profit to the gardener, but owing to the lack of this essential element, the country for 50 miles north and 150 miles east, and as far south as the Rio Grande and west to New Mexico presents the appearance of a desert waste, with cactus and sagebrush and mesquiet as the only product of the soil; yet there is a fine grass which grows in stools or tufts, and looks gray and dried up, and is very nutritious for stock which feeds and flourishes on it. A Northern farmer looks for green fields to make good pasture lands, and to find this dried looking stuff would seem like starvation for his animals, but he would be deceived. The Texas cattle do well on it; that is, they live and grow large and boney, but the flesh it makes is not fit to eat. We of the Northeast are told that there is no beef equal to that cut from a Texas steer. This may be true, but I can tell you the frame *only* is made in Texas, and when it is driven to Kansas or Iowa and there fed on corn and green grass and hay, and the flesh put on the skeleton frame, otherwise it would not sell in the Eastern market in competition to Ohio and Michigan beef at a cent a pound. We got no good beef steak after leaving St. Louis until we arrived in California.

We stopped at El Paso, Tex., Friday and Saturday, and intended to take the Mexican Central railway for Chihuahua, 224 miles south from El Paso, an old Mexican Town of 30,000 inhabitants, but there arose one of those terrific sand storms, such as prevail there frequently, which completely used up Mr. Woodford, so we had to abandon the tour. The clouds of dust which fill the air when these wind storms prevail, are impregnated with alcalie which penetrates everything you wear, gets up your nose, in your eyes, ear and mouth, causing your lips to parch and crack, your eyes smart and run, lungs to ache, and in all it is about the most disagreeable sensation one can experience.

We visited, however, the old Mexican City of Paso del Norte, which lies opposite El Paso, Texas, across the Rio Grande, and is reached by horse cars from El Paso, and is the northern terminus of the Mexican Central Railway. You can scarcely conceive of the quaintness of an old Mexican Town, with their low "adobe" houses, built out flush with the sidewalks, which, by the way, are nothing but dirt ones, separated from the narrow roadway only by a gutter. The streets are very irregular, and laid out without the slightest regard to angles or points of the compass. The long blocks of houses—but one story high—look more like a stone wall than like our Yankee kind of house. The material from which these are built is a sun-dried brick or block of hard mud (clay, I suppose) 12 or 14 inches long, six or eight inches thick, and perhaps 10 inches wide. They are laid with open joints in walls three or four feet thick in many instances, and the better class of houses are plastered on the outside with slackened lime mortar smoothly, and look quite clean and respectable. The roofs are flat and made of the same material. The ceilings upon which the adobe roofs rest are made with muskee or cedar sticks and brush, and the water is carried off, when it rains, by means of spouts which project out from the buildings every six or eight feet apart.

I cannot command words to describe the quaint and curious habits and customs of the native Mexicans as we find them on the borders of ours and their country. They are ignorant, lazy and shiftless, and nearly all entertain a sort of hatred of Americans; so with their semi-barbarian dispositions, makes living among them dangerous. The cowboys are principally Mexicans of the lowest type. We visited the old Mission Cathedral "Guadaloupe" at Paso del Norte, which was built more than 200 years ago All the customs of the old Jesuit Fathers are kept up faithfully the same as they were hundreds, and I might say, thousands of years ago. The native Mexican is contented to drive a six and eight ox team hitched to a cart the wheels of which are of the most primitive order, with a loaf which would be but a fraction of what a good dray horse in Toledo would haul with the greatest ease, yet these Mexicans drag through life, these abominable looking vehicles which tell the story of their enterprise, or the lack of it, better than any pen picture I can make of them. Our African negro is twenty per cent. more industrious and intelligent than the native Mexican on the borders.

We left El Paso April 27 for Los Angeles, Col., and crossed the great American desert, and a desert it is, too. Miles and miles at a stretch there is not a single blade or shrub of any kind of vegetation, nothing but mounds and knolls of sand which drifts in the wind like snow. I cannot describe the country through which we passed. It is but a barren waste, with nothing to commend it except to furnish a foundation for a railroad track to connect the fertile Western States with the Pacific coast. The Southern Pacific stretches across like a bridge across a dry stream, and unless the Good Lord has hidden treasures of precious metal in the mountains which tower up in view on both sides, it seems to me the country is absolutely worthless.

Monday morning we merg from the desert into the fertile vallies of California. Oh! what a contrast! Here flowers in abundance on all sides, and the mountains capped with snow in full sight. The foot hill and mounds are now covered with green grass, and the stock, what are seen from the car windows, are fat and sleek. The Mexican cowboys have disappeared, and in their stead are seen evidences of intelligence and thrift. We are now in God's own country. A land of perpetual Summer, with fruit and flowers on all sides and all nature blooms. The contrast could not be greater, and I am not possessed of words or ability to describe this country, but one is well prepared to appreciate it after passing over the 2,000 miles of barren country which lies East of it. We have driven to all the principal places of interest and are now ready to move on to new scenes. We drove in a carriage to Pasadena, which is a small village up the Arroyo Seco River, nine miles away, situated in the midst of orange groves and extensive vineyards, and what a picture! No tongue or pen can describe it fully. The air is delightful here, about 1,000 feet above the sea, and such flowers, plants and tropical trees. Palms, cactus and the eucalepius tree grow in abundance, also the pepper tree. We also went up to the foot of the Sierra Madre Mountains to a popular resort. The Sierra Madre, Villa, which is at the foot of the mountain, 1,600 feet above the sea, and whose peak rises above the clouds to a hight of over 4,000 feet. The tops of these are covered with snow, and from a distance, miles away, can be seen above the clouds, but as the villa you can only follow with your eyes the rough, rugged rocks up to the clouds, and then you must stop, but what a panoramic view when you turn and look across the San Gabriel Valley, one of the most fertile in the State, with here and there a house, but principally covered with fields of wheat and barley, and vineyards and orange groves. The trees are loaded with fruit in all stages of maturity, from the bud and blossom to the ripe golden fruit. Well, my dear Colonel, you must see it to know anything of it. I can't describe it. My picture would fall as short of the reality as the illuminated rays of a tallow candle would be to those of the sun. I am glad I came, for to travel is to be educated, and to enjoy a sojourn in this valley is next to Eden itself. Los Angeles has a population of 25,000, which has come here, for the most part, during the past 10 years. The railroads have made this place, and to hear the citizens talk of it and its advantages, would sound visionary, bust the past has proved the truth of what they say of the resources of this country. It is simply wonderful. Those who had a little patch of land a few years ago, scarcely worth the taxes, are now rich in possession of it, or the proceeds of its sale, or its products.

W. H. CURRIER.

Southern Alabama.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade.

In your paper of March 13, W. A. Hoyt asks about Northern settlements in the South. I will say, for his information and others who may feel interested, that three Northern settlements were made in this County last year. He can address Elijah Hall, Pickensville, Ala., who has been here about one year. This is a fine stock country, and many say that stock needs no feed either Winter or Summer; but this is not true of such Winters as the past, as I have learned to my sorrow. Unless wheat, barley or rye are sown for pasture, cattle should, for two or three months, have some feed and shelter in bad weather. For Summer pastures Bermuda grass is all that could be desired, although some object to it as being apt to spread where you do not want it and hard to eradicate. In this respect it resembles blue grass, which also does well here. Bermuda has no seed in this latitude, and as it only spreads from the roots is not hard to control. It is the first grass in the Spring and last in the Fall, and is the most nutritious grass known. Japan clover also makes a good Summer pasture, and improves the land. Red, white and Alsike clovers also do well when proper attention is paid to them. Many cattle are whittered in the canebrakes and we have a burr or Winter clover which grows during the Winter, ripens and dies down in May, and no more is seen of it until the next Fall. We think there is no State that will surpass Alabama as a stock country, and none that will equal it in minerals and timber. There are still 20,000,000 acres of long leaf pine, altho it is being bought up very rapidly and mostly by Northern men. We have also large quantities of kinds of other timber; hickory is being shipped from this section to Scotland. A wooden ware factory has recently been located near hear and now has orders for more ax handles than it can manufacture in the next two years without an increase of machinery. Coal and iron are in vast quantities, and furnaces, factories and cities are springing up as if by magic. These afford fine markets for all we can raise, and as they are right at our doors, we do not have to pay half the proceeds for transportation. Yes, there is "an abundance of pure, soft water," and springs of as cool, refreshing water as ever was drunk are to be found on every farm and almost every field. Our Winters are mild, and while our Summers are long, the heat is never so oppressive as it is in higher latitudes.

There are many Northern settlers scattered all over this State, and every southward-bound train brings more, and there is plenty of room and a hearty welcome for all who come. We have a great deal of rain during the Winter, but not so much but that the industrious farmer can do a good deal of work. The last census report has maps showing rainfall during the different seasons.

It is not necessary for me to say that Mr. Locke is writing very interesting letters about the South. All he writes is interesting, as every reader of the BLADE knows, his letters are truthful, to the point, and bring out things both new and old that never have been in print and never would have seen the light but for him. Who would or *could* have told the story about the little widow so inimitably. C. C. L. DILL.

Pickensville, Ala.

Nebraska.

To the Editor of the Blade:

INMAN, HOLT CO., Neb., May 9.

The green grass, fresh grain, singing birds and May flowers, all unite to cheer the farmer and merry cowboy. Corn planting is the order of the day, and the machinery man in town is busy rattling around with his multitude of new "patent helps," which in our boyhood were not dreamed of. Yes, farming in the West is a pleasure, and the 10 or 12-year-old boy who can ride a sulky plow, pulverizer or seeder, thinks himself a man. Why, sir, he does the work and fills the bill. I was raised in the East among the rocks and stumps, but since I came to Nebraska, where Nature, as Henry Clay said, "Has expended $25 per acre," I feel that I have just begun to live.

To my many friends in the East I feel like shouting, "Come West, and enjoy life in the best climate in the world; the best water in the world; the best land in the world."

Uncle Sam, who is rich and loving, has reserved the best of the land for his children, who are fast improving these golden gifts. I have traveled all over Northern Nebraska and find the Elkhorn Valley as rich as any, with many advantages, such as centrally located, Railroad advantages, stock and farming lands, soft water and good reliable neighbors. The people are coming from every State and take hold readily with church and school. A large amount of grain has been sowed this season and business in towns is lively. Come one and all, for the "cake will soon be doue." The town of Inman offers at present inviting features for all branches of business.

D. L. POND.

A Chip from Kansas.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade.

I have taken the BLADE for three months on trial, and taking into consideration the position it occupies, I am obliged to renew my subscription and send the name of one new subscriber. The sketches of "Pioneer Life" are very interesting to me. Although I am only 47 years old, yet I can look back vividly to my boyhood days and see the kind of impiements my parents and grandparents had to work with. The old log house I was born in, and the log barn, etc. Those were happy days to me. The sun shone brighter, the days were more pleasant and I knew no care or sorrow, and everything seemed more joyous than now. I am living a pioneer life now, but how different is everything from the good old days of our ancestors. Good cast steel plows are now used in place of the wooden ones then, and the grain header now in place of the sickle; and a great many other changes I might mention, but time and space will not permit. And then I am greatly interested in another department, "Pulverize the Rum Power." None knows but those who have been in the habit of using glass tumblers for goggles, the evil there is in that terrible habit. I have been one of its victims, and I know wherof I speak. Then I would not forget the CAMP FIRE department. I wish I had something I might throw on to make it burn brighter. I was a member of the 36th Illinois Regimental Brass Band. As I do not see anything in that department, I would earnestly ask those who should happen to cast their eye on this chip to write to me.—WM. H. BEARDSLEY, Point View, Kan.

CONDENSED LETTERS.

A subscriber at Medberg, Altansas County, Idaho, writes to warn the readers of the BLADE against the men who are working in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, endeavoring to colonize Big Camos Prairie. The loca ion is not at all suitable for farming purposes.

John P. Long, Blue Mound, Linn Co., Kas., volunteers to furnish information concerning Labetto, Allen, Bourbon, Linn, Miami and Johnson Counties, Kansas.

Claiborne Wright, Mason, Ill.: The proper adjustment of the tariff is an important matter, and many things connected with the Government are worthy the attention of statesmen and their constituents, but in my judgement there is no question or issue before the people of this Government that is of half the importance as that of Prohibition.

J. E. J. Burnhart Mills, Pa. In 1849 the Jury in the case of Mrs. Howard at Cincinnati, tried for the murder of her husband's mistress rendered a verdict of acquittal. When the verdict was read in Court the thousands assembled to hear this unfortunate woman's fate, cheered both the jury and the lady.

D. F. Simmons, Tut, Blount Co., Tenn.—I bid you God's speed in Pulverizing the Rum Power of the United States. I hope you will be successful, and if you lose a subscriber of the Rum party, I will insure you three in their place. I would that all of our Republican papers had the nerve that you have.

John Hardacre, Co. I., 101st Indiana, Walker, Mo., writes to express his appreciation of the CAMP FIRE.

J. W. Magill, Medicine Lodge, Kans., wants the address of Joseph Calcraft, Co. D., 89th Illinois Infantry.

J. A. Moore, Co. E., 107th Ills., 2d Brig., 2d Div., 33d A. C., now living at Moran, Allen Co., Kans., writes a pleasant letter, taking for his text Gen. Sherman's words, "We were all boys together."

The letter of a member of the 17th Iowa in the CAMP FIRE, stirs up L. W. McKinsey, of Rich Hill, Mo., who belonged to Co. E, 24th Mo., which was attached to the 10th Mo. He wants to know what has become of the rest of the brigade—the 80th Ohio, and the "hell-roaring" 56th Illinois.

Cicero C. Wait, of Ridgeville, Ind., wants the address of Lieut. Allen C. Stover, late of Co

The Household.

Edited by Miss Emily S. Bouton.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write "Household Department" on the envelope.
2. Give real name and Postoffice address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.
3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.
4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

GENERAL ETIQUET

XXVIII.

The hints which have been given may be varied to a certain extent and yet the laws of etiquet not be violated. I have endeavored to put before you the best, simplest and most convenient forms, all things considered, which conform to good usage, and if these are carefully adhered to, you will have no occasion to feel disturbed about its style, if your letter is to the highest magnate in the land.

Since writing the last chapter I chanced upon a writer who, in speaking of the closing of letters, advises the use of the name simply when writing to strangers, and then, in order that there may be no mistake, the placing of the full address below the signature. If the lady be unmarried she may precede her name with "Miss" in brackets.

This is all very well, but I decidedly disagree with her when she goes on to say that it is a vulgarity for a married lady to sign herself with the "Mrs." or a single lady with the "Miss." Wherein the vulgarity lies it is hard to see, as some of the most elegant married society ladies in the country would not hesitate to do so when writing formally to a stranger. However, since there is a difference of opinion and both ways are allowed, the taste or prejudice of the individual must decide.

Some people prefer to place the name of the person addressed in a formal or business letter at the close rather than at the beginning as I have directed. This is a matter of choice, but when done it should be written in the lower left hand corner. Any letter begun with less formality as "My Dear Mrs. Ames," should not have the name repeated. It should also be omitted if the letter is written in the third person. Time was when this was the only proper way for persons to write to each other who were slightly acquainted. It was like many other stately customs which have passed almost entirely away. The third person is now rarely used except in notes of invitation or regrets. It is scarcely necessary to say that the name should never be signed to such notes or letters.

And right here I will say a few more words about regrets. It is coming to be felt that the most polite way is to mention the reason why the invitation cannot be accepted. Some writers are very emphatic now upon the subject, and give the following form as the most appropriate:

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ward regret that illness in the family prevents their accepting Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Rodney's kind invitation to dine with them on Thursday.

I do not agree with them in the opinion that the shorter form is discourteous, and yet there is reason in their assertion that the closer the attention in such matters to what may or may not be pleasant and agreeable to others the smoother the wheels of society move and the less the friction created. It is certainly more gratifying to know just why an invitation is refused, especially in the case of a limited number being invited.

In writing notes of invitation or acceptance or regrets be careful not to separate the Mr. and Mrs. from the name by writing them on different lines. Also do not make the error in grammar of saying "will accept" for "accepts" or "accepting." "To dine" is far better than "to dinner." If the word "dinner" is used, precede it by the preposition "for." Do not say "polite invitation, nor speak of "availing" yourself of one, nor of circumstances "precluding" your acceptance. I can give you no good reason why all these words are not considered proper to use, aside from those expressions which are ungrammatical, but customs are continually changing, and what is in good taste to-day may be tabooed to-morrow. This is, however, only true of minor things. Laws of etiquet which are grounded upon true courtesy and real kindness of heart vary but little. We sometimes hear of old-fashioned politeness, or of a person being a gentleman of the old-school, meaning someone who adheres to the little forms that were prevalent in times past but now become obsolete. But the term is never used in derision, showing that true courtesy always commands consideration.

People are sometimes puzzled to know how to address a servant. They do not want to write as to one in their own station in life, nor yet in a way to lead them to feel that their mistress regards them with no respect. Many write to them in the third person, thus: To Margaret Sullivan: "Mrs. Brown will return home June 15th, and wishes to have her house open and aired by that time." In writing to an old and valued servant, however, it appears to me that a more cordial way of expressing the wishes of the mistress might be used, and it could be written in the first person, thus showing something like personal interest. However, that is as one chooses, and to be determined somewhat by the usages of the community where one lives. What in the old country would be considered the only proper thing, might be resented by the Bridgets and Margarets here in their newly fledged independence. The form given is a perfectly correct one under any circumstances, whether objected to or not. In all cases state your wishes in the fewest words possible, and in such a way that they cannot be misunderstood.

Letters should not be crossed even to the most intimate friends. In olden times when paper was scarce and expensive, it could be excused, but not now. The tax upon patience and the eyesight is great, and should not be imposed upon anyone.

This brings me to another caution and that is in regard to writing plainly. A careless handwriting that looks more like irregular bird tracks than aught else, the meaning of which is to be guessed at, is exasperating to those who are obliged to puzzle anxiously over it. Then be careful to sign your name plainly and in addressing the envelope be sure that it is correct, and that it can be easily read. Remember that it is to be deciphered by those who are obliged to handle hundreds daily, and it adds no little to the burden when it can only be read with great effort. It is just as easy to form the habit of doing things well, and it saves a great deal of trouble.

Another thing. It is always a compliment to the people you are writing to, to use nice paper. By that I do not mean expensive fancy sheets, but fair, firm white paper, and envelope thick enough not to show the writing through. Nor should you tear the sheets in two, leaving rough, ragged edges, the sight of which suggests haste and carelessness. Then, too, a blurred, blotted appearance is most unsightly, and can easily be avoided. As I have said before, attention to these little points betokens refinement and a consideration for the feelings of others. EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

A Pretty Banner.—Materials: ¾ yd. of gold-colored satin; ¼ yd. of scarlet or cherry lining silk; a bunch of peacock feathers; ¼ yd. cherry satin ribbon; cord to hang it by.

Arrange several of the feathers upon the gold-colored satin so as to show their beautiful colors, sticking them down with a little mucilage at the thicker part of the eyes. Tie the ends together with the ribbon which has been sewed to the satin, making them look as if held in place by that. The lining should have been put in before the feathers are fastened on. Then cut off the smaller feathers within two or three inches of the eyes and make a sort of fringe of them across the bottom. They will probably have to be trimmed somewhat, but the effect is very beautiful. Put on the cord to hang it up by and you have a most unique banner.

Peacock feathers are used for ornamenting very profusely. Two or three are put in a place, here and there under pictures and in vases, everywhere possible.

An exchange gives the following hint for a bedroom:

Bright crimson matting is one of the prettiest coverings for a bedroom floor. It is far preferable to a cheap ingrain or Brussels carpet and costs but one-third the money. A bedroom seen recently was furnished with the matting, while little Persian rugs were placed at the side of the bed and in front of the dressing-case and wash-stand. The dark wood furniture contrasted pleasantly with the crimson, while white muslin curtains draped the windows, and were held back by crimson satin ribbons. Above them were little lambrequins of crimson Turkey cotton, embroidered in white and yellow worsted daisies. The occupant of the room said the matting was easier to keep clean and free from dust than the carpet; that she expected it to last three years more and that she had used it two years already.

Crocheting, Victoria Stitch.—Make a chain of any desired length, and for the first row work from right to left, taking up every chain loop, and leaving all the loops on the needle. For the second row, work all the loops from the needle from left to right, one at a *time*, by throwing the cotton over the needle and passing it through the new formed loop and the one on the needle. At the repetition of every 1st row, be careful in forming the stitch to raise the vertical front loop with the back loop. Two rows form the pattern stitch and it is worked to and fro.

Embroidery, Couching Stitch.—This consists of a strand of cord or of several strands of silk or wool, laid together and caught down by stitches of the same or some other material at equal distances.

USEFUL HINTS.

Mosaic Embroidery.—Mosaic embroidery is very effective for "mantel drapes," "piano covers," and screens, and is quite easily made. Take whatever material is chosen for the ground work, and sew on to it (with some fancy stitch,) odd patterns cut from various colored plushes.

Coffee Grounds.—Make a good filling for a pin cushion, but they must be dried perfectly. Put them in a sack and hang beand the stove till you have enough. They do not rust the needles.

A Home-made Plaque.—A pretty plaque is first painted a light blue, deepening color toward the lower end. When quite dry, a photograph, which has been removed from the card by soaking it in tepid water for half an hour, is cut into an oval and gummed on, and surrounded by a wreath of tiny flowers and leaves, painted in oils, and the whole varnished with a clear white varnish.

Another pretty ornament, made from photographs, is to arrange them on cardboard, with a surrounding composed of dried flowers and grasses, and then placed in a deep velvet frame.

Pretty comforters for Summer use are made of the thin cotton cloth commonly called "cheese cloth." Tack them with yarn of some bright color, and bind the edge to match. Dust shakes out from these more readily than from almost any other material.

A very unique parasol was made by a lady, by covering an old silk one with peacock feathers. It was then lined and finished with peacock fringe.

I will tell you again some pleasant evening and inform you of a new and novel way to drape your curtains.

If the lady who wishes to learn ribbon work will send me her address, with stamped envelope, I will send her correct directions.

Also, if Clara T. Covell, of Rome, N. Y., will send me a stamped envelope, I will send her directions for a beautiful lambrequin to be made of some left over. Can be used also for table stand. Address JENNIE LIND, box 576, Clyde, O.

Chair Tidy.—Here is a durable and pretty chair tidy for "J. A. D." The materials are one skein each of red and white woolen yarn, or any other colors that may be preferred. Cast on 28 stitches on a common-sized knitting needle. First knit across plain, seam back, across plain and seam back again. The fifth time across should be seamed, the sixth plain, seventh seamed, eighth plain and ninth plain. This rule should be followed until the strip is of the desired length for the tidy. When binding off the strip drop the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th stitches, raveling them the whole length of the strip. This gives it a very pretty effect. The tidy may be made of five of these strips, three of red and two of white or any other color. These should be sewed together, being careful to have the little ribs on the strips match. It is finished with fringe about one finger long. I would like to hear how it is liked by any who may try it.—EDITH.

Honeycomb Pattern.—Cast on any number of stitches divisible by 7; add an odd stitch. Always slip the first stitch of every row, besides the two slipped stitches which are not knit at all until the 8th row, when the whole row is knit across. First row—Pick off the 1st stitch*, s 2—k 1—t o—n—k 1*—repeat from * to * to the end of the row, which must end as it commenced, with s 2—k 1. Second row—Like the 1st, except that it is knit purlwise with the thread in front, and instead of thread over it is thrown around the needle. Third row—Like 1st. Fourth row—Like 2d. Fifth row—Like 1st; this brings the wrong side of the work next to you. Sixth row—Knit plain across; knitting the slipped stitches which have not before. Seventh row—Purl. Eighth row—Plain; this makes half the pattern. The 9th row is similar to the first, except that you commence with s 1*—t o—n—k 1—s 2—k 1*—continue from * to *. Tenth row—The same, knit purlwise. Eleventh row — Same as 9th. Twelfth row —Like 10th. Thirteenth row—Same as 9th. Fourteenth row — Plain across. Fifteenth row—Purl across. Sixteenth row —Plain. This completes the pattern. You commence again at the 1st row.

Correspondence.

SINGING SCHOOLS.—Dr. Scott, in his 21st number on Recollections of Pioneer Life in the West, gives a graphic account of singing schools. The first singing school in the neighborhood in which I lived in my boyhood, was kept by a Mr. Wiley, from Kentucky. All the youngsters, both male and female, of the neighborhood, extending over a district six or eight miles in diameter, attended. I have since been to many singing schools, and I now think Mr. Wiley was the best teacher I ever heard sing. Music books could not be obtained. Each scholar prepared his or her own book by folding and stitching common foolscap paper in a proper form, and he had a rule and a write to each, rapidly and from memory, the part each should sing. The characters used were an imitation of the buckwheat notation, and were easily read. One term extended over a period of 13 weeks, Saturday and Sunday of each week, and two new tunes were written and learned each week. The new tunes were written on Saturday afternoon after adjournment. Mr. Wiley kept four terms in the neighborhood. The third term the school procured a small book, entitled extracts from the Kentucky Harmony. The fourth term the Missouri Harmony came in. At that time I was too young to be a scholar in the school, but, having a brother and two sisters in the school, I learned to sing all the tunes as readily as any of the scholars. My object in writing this is, to express my surprise and regret, that authors of music intended for Sunday schools, singing schools and churches, persist in using a dead language, very difficult to be learned, in order to read music. Mason said, it was as difficult to learn to read music readily as to learn to translate Latin into Greek. He had tried both. It is an imposition on Sunday school scholars to write their music in a dead language.

Some of the teachers argue in favor of the Guidonian system, because a person must thoroughly understand the rudiments of music before he can sing. There would be as much sense in saying a child, in our common schools, should learn the Latin and Greek languages in order to understand the English language. Some years ago, A. D. Fillmore published "Harp of Zion," using the numerals from one to seven on the staff. I have known boys and girls 12 or 15 years old, after attending school one term, take the floor and lead in singing the tunes found in this book. The system is so plain that the way-faring man etc: Lately, James M. Fillmore has written a book for singing schools, churches etc., using numerals written in the round notes requiring a microscope to read them. When will musicians learn wisdom? WM. PORTER, Oregon.

SEVERAL THINGS.—The lady who "wants to know you know," concerning the Pantograph, Smithograph, etc., can buy one with directions for using at most any art store, at prices ranging from 75c. to $1.50, but if she wants to do honest work let the thing alone. It is half-amusing, half-disgusting to hear persons who "play by ear" without knowing a note, spoken of as capable of playing anything, but the true musician who makes music a life study, rarely claims as much without practice. Many a real artist who has worked for years to accomplish by honest means the same result, have had the bread taken from their mouths by sham artists who obtain small pictures and enlarge and color them, claiming to furnish a real work of art for less than would pay the board of one who actually painted an honest picture. It will be a long time before people in general will learn to distinguish sham from from real Smithograph, etc., pictures are oleomargarine as compared to sweet butter.

The lady who desires a missing article in oil painting will find the whole set, as copied, mistakes in spelling and all by "Bridal Rose," in a little pamphlet "Fancy Work for Home Adornment;" price 3 cents. Send a postal with your address and I will return the publishers' address, as the BLADE probably will not care to advertise gratis.

To "Lamar," Don't be discouraged because you can't paint a rose. Paint what you can, and that will come of itself when you get to it. I don't think you passed from the first reader class into the third, for the second was next in order. Everything comes if we wait and work for it.

I read some time ago in the HOUSEHOLD that essence or oil of peppermint would relieve neuralgia if used as a liniment, or given internally in neuralgia in the stomach. It was too simple, and I didn't try it, but afterward when the same virtues were accorded to "menthol" I sent for some, tried it with the Latin name and it is really wonderful. I have suffered so much, and the optic nerve of my left eye was badly affected, but the sight and strength is restored and it was *menthol* did it. Of course it isn't pleasant to have your friends and all you meet suppose that you think peppermint (*menthol*) is your favorite perfume, so you can add a little spirits of camphor, then they'll know what it means; or add good cologne and no one will recognize the odor. Rub the gums with it; also the nerves on the side of the face, nose and neck and about the eyes.

I have a scrap book, one of the ready-gummed ones, that I am filling with selections of prose or poetry by friends and acquaintances. I write the name of each one beside their selection. I think one can select an article that expresses their taste better than if asked to "write something" in an autograph album. My choice scrap book is being filled with the very best, and is to be a valuable book. The following is what I use in oil painting on different fabrics: First, squeeze out the paint on blotting-paper to absorb the oil, then thin the paint on a plate or palette with a mixture of 1 part benzine, 1 part turpentine, 2 parts oil of lavender leaves. It does not sicken one like either alone, but an occasional nibble of any bread or cracker will relieve the faint feeling some feel after painting.—JOSEPHINE B. SCOTT, Farmer, Defiance Co., Ohio.

PRIZES IN SCHOOL.—I would like to say to "Hawthorne" that I have taught school for 11 years and never in that time have I taught a term without offering prizes, and I think the plan a success.

As for "bribing children to learn," I do not call it by that name, but I should like to ask "school ma'am" if we do anything in this world of ours without expecting a reward in some form or other? Why does she teach school? Would she teach without any reward, either in the shape of money, or the expectation of doing a good? You tell children that they will reap their reward when grown by having a grand education, do they understand it? I think not from the number of times I have heard men and women say, "Oh! if I had only known the value of an education."

Then why is it such a terrible thing to place before the children a trifling reward—something they can see and can understand, and which they cannot obtain unless they at the same time increase their "store-house of knowledge?"

You need not offer prizes for the same branches every time.

I offer a prize for the highest average scholarship for the term, and have the pupils keep a record, which must agree with mine. There can be no one saying, "The teacher marks unfairly," for the records show for themselves.

Again, I invariably offer a prize to those attending each day of the entire term (sickness excused). I find that works admirably.

Parents are not so apt to keep their children out of school for every little thing, when by so doing the children lose their prizes.—COUNTRY SCHOOL TEACHER.

SOME QUESTIONS.—May I come in and say a word or two? First, let me thank the editor ever so much for her articles on table, social, and general etiquet. There are t few questions that I would like to ask. I will prelude my first question by saying that a lady friend of mine (who by the way is highly educated and accomplished) was visiting a sister who was married, and while there, they were invited to a "lunch" given by the uncle of her brother-in-law, who was of an old, aristocratic family. They lunched at one P. M. and dined at six, the former being an informal affair while the latter was very formal, there being several courses. My friend said, "I consented to stay to lunch, and I, being the guest, was waited upon first by the servants, and I was at a loss several times to know just how to act or how to help myself. And to think of being at such a place, and I would not dare attempt it. "Now, question No. 1, how should persons, who are unaccustomed to such things, act at a lunch or dinner, they being the guest?" If others were served first, they could quietly take observations and do as others did, but I would like a few hints, or suggestions as to the course to pursue.

Now another thing, I have always been accustomed to use a fork to convey food to my mouth, and it would seem extremely awkward to use a knife for that purpose; but I wish to know why one is wrong and the other right, supposing, for instance, a person was banished from the presence of all other human beings during the remainder of his life, why would the simple act of putting the knife to the mouth be wrong?

I was well pleased with your article about letter writing. I have corresponded with a goodly number of persons, and I never wrote a letter but what I would read it and say to myself, "will I have occasion to regret what this contains in after years?" and I wish to add my mite on this subject, especially to young ladies and Misses. Remember, girls, that all of you are looking forward to the time when some of God's noblemen will want you for a wife. With this thought in view write nothing that you would wish to have blotted out when you become the mistress of a happy home. During a Fourth of July oration delivered at Worthington, Minn., by ex-Gov. Miller, (who is now dead) a few years ago, he said: "During my public life I have made over a thousand speeches of a political nature, and in all those speeches, I can say, were I to meet my Maker to-day, I never uttered one word that would care to have blotted out.—LITTLE ONE.

The question in regard to how one should act at a lunch or dinner is such a general one as to be difficult to answer, any farther than they have been answered in the articles upon "Etiquet." Well trained servants usually leave nothing to do except to accept or refuse what is offered. Even if the guest is served first, she will not commence eating until some, at least, of the rest are waited upon. If she simply let the servant place before her whatever is customary, receiving the service as a matter of course, she will do well enough It is often the *fear* of doing something awkward that produces the result. At a dinner with several courses, one eats a little of each one, never being guilty of satisfying the appetite with one. If soup is the first course, it is not etiquet to break up a great quantity of bread and crackers in it, as if one were expected to make a whole meal out of that.

If any one keeps an observant eye open, and is quiet and refined in manner, no matter how much style may be observed, she need not do anything boorish. But it is to do away with awkwardness that we spoke so strongly in regard to observing good manners at the home table, and the desirability of this cannot be emphasized too strongly. People who are polite and well bred in the home circle need not be ashamed to go anywhere, even if ignorant of some of the vagaries of fashion.

As to using the fork instead of the knife to convey the food to the mouth, that has been already discussed in "Etiquet." It is not a *sin*, but simply not in accordance with the usages of good society.—ED.

Inquiries.

Will Clara M. please tell us how to make the breakfast cap of hairpin trimming out of Barbour's linen thread!—N. S.

Will some one give a recipe for cleaning light kid gloves? also white ones?—ROSE.

They can be washed clean in rose oil, but as that is exceedingly inflammable stuff, it must be done in the daytime *always*. Lay the gloves where there is considerable heat to dry them, and then air them thoroly.—ED.

I have an olive ingrain carpet upon which there was a grease spot, I attempted to take it out with soda and hot iron, but being unsuccessful I tried soap and water, thus taking out the color. Can any of your readers inform me of anything to restore the color? —MRS. C. L. S., Topeka.

If any member of the HOUSEHOLD can give advice in regard to preparing the soil and planting the passion vine flower seed, I will be very thankful.—MISS E. F. S.

I would like some one who lives on the Pacific coast or anywhere in the States of California or Oregon, to tell me through the BLADE or by letter, what the opportunities are for a woman to make a living there by sewing?—FAY FOREST.

Can any one give a cure for a very distressing burning pain in the soles of the feet and the palms of the hands? Please answer immediately.

Can any one give directions for laying down cucumbers ready for the table, such as those we buy at the stores?—MRS. J. B. PHILLIPS, Perley, Wis.

I have tried at several City drug stores to get the white brandy recommended in "Health and Beauty" for comedones, but was unable to find it. Is it not generally kept by druggists, or is there some other name by which it is better known.—C. ALLISON.

Any other nice kind of brandy will do. It is only kept in large Cities.—ED.

Will "Mrs. C. P." please explain the abbreviations in her deep crochet lace? They are as follows: Dc., sc. and ch.—MRS. H. E. R.

Can any of the readers of the HOUSEHOLD explain how to make skeleton leaves?—I. M. TAYLOR, North Hartland, N. Y.

In the BLADE of March 6 is a pattern given by "Mrs. Dunham," Jesup, Ia. Would she be so kind as to explain what "stitch to twice" means in 15th row?

I would like to ask some of the HOUSEHOLD how to can strawberries so as to keep their natural color.—NORA, West Union, Ia.

What ails my canary? He quit singing about three weeks ago, is bright and lively, is not shedding feathers, and seems to be in perfect health. Would like to know if there is anything that will cause him to sing again.

Also, if there is any way to keep a copper reservoir bright. We can make ours very bright, but it tarnishes directly. Would be pleased if any one would suggest a way to keep it bright.—SEVENTY-THREE.

Will some experienced person tell me through the columns of the HOUSEHOLD what breed of chickens is the most profitable to keep on a farm—that is the best layers and the best for the market—the Plymouth Rock, Cochin, the Spanish, or what kind?—N. B. P.

Can any one of the sisters furnish a knitted slipper pattern? There was one published in the HOUSEHOLD last Winter, which I wished very much to save but lost it unaccountably. Would like a pattern knit with two colors, "basket work." I think it is called, but would be thankful for any kind.—INVALID.

Out here in Kansas good house help is almost impossible to get at all, and very many women that ought to have help cannot get it. As I was reading, the thought came to me to write to this BLADE. Perchance some one wanting a good, steady home as housekeeper may see it and respond. A woman seeing this and writing to MRS. S. A. H., Belleville, Kan., will receive an immediate answer.

I would be pleased if "Nina," of Troy, Kan., would send us her way to cover old chairs, through the columns of your paper. ANNA B. TALBOT, Plymouth, Ill.

Answers to Inquiries.

I have tried the recipe for cake without eggs or milk, and find it good, except the cinnamon. I only used 1 tablespoonful instead of 1 teacupful as printed. Many thanks for the recipe.—MRS. H. E. R,, Elmira.

I have enjoyed your "Social Etiquet" very much, particularly the part pertaining to the table, and its decoration. Could you not give some hints in regard to the amount of food to be served upon the plate? I have been to places where my plate has been so loaded that my appetite would be completely taken away by the sight of it. How much better a little, nicely served, tastes.

Please tell me whether a lady physician—or physician's wife, should be called MRS. Dr. So-and-So. I think not, and have had quite a dispute about it, as it is seen so often in print.—MRS. N. S.

The plates should never be overloaded. It is vulgar to do so, but it generally occurs through the fear of seeming parsimonious. Especially where there are several courses is it out of place to heap up the dishes as if the guest had the appetite of an anaconda. Serve each one moderately, as it is not impossible to replenish the plate if wanted.

The use of titles in this country has become so common, that to extend the courtesy to the wife is not considered out of place, and has come, in fact, to be more a matter of taste than of etiquet. This, however, only extends to the address upon letters, but should never be engraved upon their cards. A woman who is a physician has certainly a claim to her professional title, and it is in her case a breach of etiquet not to give it to her. There is no reason why those who have earned a right to a place in the profession should not have the honor and benefit which the signifying of that fact gives, and to ignore her title in address is not only discourteous but a robbery.—ED.

Would like to tell "C. M. B." and anyone else suffering from contracted cords, that "skunks oil" is an excellent remedy, used by frequently rubbing it on the affected parts. The animal is killed and cleaned like a rabbit, and then hung before the fire till the fat turns to oil.—A FRIEND.

If "J. V. W." will send me her address I will try to send her a root of Elecompane that will grow.

As to the clover extract—the dose of the solid extract is a piece as large as a pea taken as a pill or in a bowl of hot water. As it is a laxative, the dose and frequency would depend on the individual's system.

Dwight Needham's Sons advertise "clover extract" in the BLADE. Write to them for a pamphlet, which will give you more information on the subject than I can in the "Household."

If the lady who inquired how to make up hair combings into switches will send me her address I will send her the directions printed in the BLADE last fall.—MRS. NELLIE WHITE.

I want to tell Anxious Inquirer how I papered on ceiling. I bought cheap muslin, tacked it up and down completely covering the boards, then pasted my paper on the muslin and it sticks better than to a plastered wall. Paper will not stick to a white-washed wall unless you put glue in the paste.—S. E. B.

If the lady who asked how to remove stains from dishes, will try "Kitchen Soap" I think she will be pleased with the result. Shave a little from the bar and apply with a cloth that has been wrung out of hot water. It is also useful for cleaning steel knives and forks, tin-ware unpainted wood, and spots on paint.

Some one asks about papering "white-washed walls." Sweep thoroughly and use well boiled flour paste. Cut strips the required length and apply paste with a small brush, beginning at bottom of paper so that the paste will not have time to weaken the top before it is on. Wall paper will stick to "painted or unpainted board partitions" easily enough but will crack where boards are joined, unless a strip of cloth is first placed over such crevices. If "Aunt Hannah" will address me I will tell her something about silk culture. As I think the questions she asks cannot all be answered through the household.—M. R. MORSE, Chester, Meigs Co., O.

I have been much interested in "Mrs. Homespun Comfort's" articles on rag carpets. I have my rags all prepared for one. I want to tell what will remove stains from the hands when they have been coloring. It is simply this: Wash them in weak lye or broke-water and they will disappear as if by magic. I think this will remove most of the dread of coloring. After washing the hands in lye rinse them immediately in clear water. To those of the sisters having plenty of old woolen stockings, I will tell you how to make a nice rug and a very cheap one. Get a piece of coffee-sack or old cloth the size you want your rug; then cut your stockings into strips 1¼ inches wide, pull out threads, say 1 doz. in a bunch; commence in the middle and sew in successive rings until you make a rose the desired size; then make one in each corner, smaller than the one in the center; then fill up the remainder with all colors and shades that you possess. This is very cheap, and you will be pleased with the result.—MRS. J. H. M., Jalapa, Ind.

"Ballard," of Hartford City, Ind., wishes to know how to prevent hair from falling out. I will here give my remedy: Bathe the hair well in cold water and then brush it till the head is aglow. Do this three times a day and you will find it a sure cure. —SIXTEEN.

In answer to Lottie for ingrown nails, I would recommend the following: First wash the affected part and trim the nail and then drop melted tallow (any kind) as hot as you can stand it, between the nail flesh.—MINNIE, of Illinois.

If "A Constant Reader" will knit until she gets to the 11th row and then knit as follows: K 5—o—k 3 tog—o—n, I think she will have it all right.—MISS L. W.

I noticed in the columns of the HOUSEHOLD, a lady wishing to know what was good for catarrh. Take flour or dust of hops ⅔, salt, ⅓, mix together and use as a snuff, three or four times aday. This recipe cured my sister-in-law of catarrh after several years standing.—MRS. W. S. WING, Willington, Tuscola County, Mich.

Some most excellent communications we have been obliged to throw into the waste basket because written upon both sides of the paper. No matter how good it is, we have no time to re-write it, and it has to go. A little care will at least give it a chance for publication.—ED.

Recipes.

Bread Cakes.—1 pt. of stale bread after it is soaked in lukewarm water until soft; 2 cupfuls flour, 2½ cupfuls sour milk, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful salt, 1 egg or not. Should be as thick as wheat batter cakes. Bake on a very hot griddle. Serve immediately.—MRS. E. CARPENTER, Milford, N. Y.

To Keep Green Tomatos.—Pick nice medium sized tomatos, and pack in a stone jar, a layer of tomatos and then one of salt. They will make their own brine. Freshen the same as cucumber pickles. If there is a little wood ashes thrown in the water when freshening they will be as nice as when picked. Try and report.

Nice Sponge Cake.—One egg, a piece of butter the size of an egg, 1 teacup very full of sugar, 1 cupful of sweet milk, 2½ cupfuls of flour, 1 teaspoonful of soda dissolved in the milk, 2 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar.—MISS M. J. H., Mich.

Ginger Snaps.—Two cupfuls of molasses, 1 cupful of sugar, 1½ cupfuls of lard, heaping tablespoonful of ginger, 1 teaspoonful of soda, ½ cupful of boiling water, pinch of salt—MRS. MARTIN, Buckner, Mo.

Ginger Cookies.—Two cupfuls of molasses, 1 cupful of sugar, 1 cupful of butter melted, 2 teaspoonfuls of soda, 4 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, 1 tablespoonful of ginger Dissolve the soda and cream tartar each in ½ cupful of boiling water, (making in all 1½ cupfuls of water), stir all together and pour in flour, mix soft and roll ¼ inch thick, mark with fork, cut in squares and bake in a moderate oven.—COMFORT.

Lemon Jelly.—Excellent. Two and one-half pounds sugar, ¾ pounds butter, 10 eggs, 10 lemons (rind and juice). Simmer on a slow fire; do not let it boil. Stir constantly until it becomes the thickness of honey. Be sure your lemons have no specks on them. Will keep the year around.

Graham Crackers.—Four eggs, 1 cupful sugar, ⅔ cupful lard or butter, 1 heaping teaspoonful soda dissolved in 2 tablespoonfuls water, 1 cupful fine flour, and Graham enough to stiffen and roll out like crackers. —MRS. E. F. WESTON, Gray Willow, Hane County, Ill.

Cup Cakes.—One cupful butter, 2 cupfuls sugar, 4 eggs, 1 teaspoonful baking powder, 3 cupfuls flour, 20 drops extract lemon. Rub the butter and sugar to a cream, add the eggs, 2 at a time, beating it five minutes between each addition. Sift together the flour and powder, which add to the butter, etc., with the extract. Mix into a smooth, medium batter; bake in well greased cup or muffin pans, in a rather hot oven, 20 minutes.—GRACE.

Beaten Biscuit.—Rub 1 tablespoonful of butter and 1 of lard into 1 qt. of sifted flour; add 1 tablespoonful of salt, and milk enough gradually poured in to make a stiff dough. Use the hands in mixing the dough. When the milk, flour and shortening have been thorely mixed, flour the bread-board and beat with the rolling pin until it blisters and cracks loudly. This beating will occupy half an hour.—MRS. J. E. PALMER.

Hickory-nut Cake.—Make any kind of nice layer cake, and then use three nuts for filling. Mash or grind the kernels fine then mix either with white of eggs beaten to a froth, and sugar so it will make a soft mass and spread between the layers, or if it is wanted richer, mix the fine kernels with thick sour cream, yolk of egg, a little butter and sugar to make as sweet as desired. Either is good.

For Breakfast.—Split Boston crackers, toast before clear fire, dip each half very quickly into boiling water, lay on hot platter, spread with butter, slight sprinkle of salt, dip onto each a tablespoonful sweet cream, then lay onto each half an egg that has been broken into and soft boiled in boiling water. Slices of nice light bread do nicely instead of crackers. Serve as soon as cooked.—OLD HOUSEKEEPER.

Fruit Cake.—No. 1. Four eggs, 1 cupful milk, 5 cupfuls flour, spice to taste, 1 cupful raisins, 1 teaspoonful soda, 2 cupfuls sugar, 1 cupful molasses, 1 cupful currants, 2 cupfuls butter. No. 2. Five eggs, 2 teaspoonfuls soda, 5 cupfuls flour, 1 lb. raisins, 2 cupfuls sugar, flour the raisins, 2 cupfuls butter, put fruit in, 1 cupful milk last, 1 lb currants, and bake slowly.

Cakes Without Eggs.

In a little book just issued from the press of Messrs. Scribner & Welford, New York, a large number of practical, though novel, receipts are given for making cakes of various kinds from the informal griddle-cake to the stately bride-cake, without eggs, by the use of the Royal Baking Powder. Experienced housekeepers inform us that this custom has already obtained large prevalence over old-fashioned methods in economical kitchens, and that the product is frequently superior to that where eggs are used, and that less butter is also required for shortening purposes. The advantage is not alone in the saving effected, but in the avoidance of the trouble attendant upon securing fresh eggs and the annoyance of an occasional cake spoiled by the accidental introduction of an egg that has reached a little more than nearly the incubatory period. The Royal Baking Powder also invariably insures perfectly light, sweet, and handsome cake, or when used for griddle cakes, to be eaten hot, enables their production in the shortest possible space of time, and makes them most tender and delicious, as well as entirely wholesome. There is no other preparation like it.

Delicacies from the West.

"What are those?" inquired a lady, pointing to a great pan of frogs' legs in front of Draham & Powell's, in Washington dozen.

"Eel's lungs," said the jocose salesman.

The demand for the delicacy just now is tremendous, and only a partial supply can be had, owing to the few sources from which they arrive.

Nearly all which arrive now come from Michigan and other points West; and sell readily at 50 and 60 cents per pound.

There are millions of frogs in the bogs, but the trouble is that so few who could catch and furnish them for market know how.

Letters come to commission men wanting to know if the frogs must be shipped alive or dead, and if alive how can the hind legs be tied without injury so as to keep them from jumping.

Only the hind quarters are used for food, and the frogs are dressed when caught, packed in ice and shipped through by express, and New Yorkers have learned to love them so much that they now consume double the quantity of their Parisian cousins.

Another delicacy arriving are doe birds from Indian Territory, and, although quite as small as a snipe, still sell for $6 per dozen.—*N. Y. Journal.*

LOKONI, Ark., October 26, 1883.—For the sake of the balance of mankind who may be suffering I wish to give you my experience with one of your Georgia remedies. I have been afflicted with Scrofula for more than 12 years—have had sores on me as large as a man's hand for that length of time, and last Summer was so bad off that I could not wear any clothing. Everybody, including myself, had given me up to die, and said I would be a dead man in three months. I had taken hundreds of bottles of all kinds of medicines, had spent hunnreds of dollars with physicians and had ruined my system with mercury and potash, when a friend told me of the wonderful cures made by Swift's Specific. I got it and began its use, and soon found it was just what I wanted. In a short time it cured me sound and well. Thousands of dollars could not buy from me what Swift's Specific has done for me. The County officials, and in fact everybody in the County will bear witness to what I have written, for I was a well known case. Yours respectfully R. L. HIGH.

Our Young Folks.

THE LITTLE STONE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

BY GEORGE NEWELL LOVEJOY.

The little stone schoolhouse
Still stands on the green,
Where it stood in my boyhood,
When life was serene.

And around it the sunshine
Falls just as of old,
As in days long since vanished,
The fair days of gold!

Under its windows
The violets grow
Just as they blossomed
Long, long years ago.

And the brown-coated swallow
Still builds his rude nest
Under the old eaves,
With none to molest.

The robin still sings
In the butternut tree,
Which stands near the spot
That is hallowed to me!

Children pass and repass
Through the wide-open door,
As they did in the old time,
The sweet days of yore.

The grass is as green,
And the skies are as fair,
As when life before me
Lay pleasant and fair.

While the breezes so fragrant
Blow over the green,
As they did in my childhood
When life was serene.

But the children who pass
Through the wide open door,
And who sport on the green,
Are not they—they of yore.

And my heart lonesome grows
Sad tears dim my eyes,
As I look on their faces,
Where happiness lies.

For I gaze and remember
My light heart at school,
In that little stone schoolhouse,
In the years beautiful.

And I fain would go back
With schoolmates of yore,
Live over the past—but
The past comes no more!

—*Youth's Companion.*

SPIDERS.

BY SARAH COOPER.

Although spiders are shunned and despised, they are, in Northern countries, mostly harmless creatures, quietly pursuing their work of destroying insects.

Spiders are found in all parts of the world, being most numerous in warm countries, where they are large and poisonous. They have a singular fancy for resting with their heads downward, and instead of living in pairs, they prefer to live alone. The females are usually larger than the males, and they show no good feeling toward the mates, eating them if they get a chance. In some cases, however, they live peaceably together for a time.

The two divisions of the spider's body are easily seen. They have four legs, ending in hooks. Near the mouth are hooked mandibles, which contain a slit for throwing out a poison to kill their prey. They have from six to eight eyes, which are grouped together on the top of the head. The higher kinds of spiders have a heart and blood-vessels. They breathe by air sacs and tubes, and have what slightly resembles a brain.

Spiders are provided with three pairs of "spinnerets" for spinning their webs, the last pair often extending behind the body like two prongs. On examining these spinnerets we shall find them covered with tiny points; from each of these flows a stream of gummy fluid, which hardens into silk when it reaches the air. The movable spinnerets are under the control of the spider, and when they are held close together the fine streams unite into one thread before hardening, but when the spinnerets are held apart the threads harden separately. By pressing the spinnerets against any object the fluid silk is forced out of the tubes, and adheres to the surface. When the spinnerets are taken away the sticky fluid is drawn out. The hind-legs are also used in drawing the delicate stream, and guiding it to form various designs. In this way a spider's web which we can barely see is composed of more than a thousand threads. Like a piece of ordinary rope, it is stronger for being made up of small cords, but notwithstanding this the silk is too delicate to be of service to man, and all attempts to weave it into cloth have failed.

Some spiders use their webs as traps to catch their prey, and these that live in holes or underneath stones generally line their hiding-places with web. Nearly all spiders inclose

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions answers, and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc. Communications should be written legibly, and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Preserving Eggs.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

Eggs packed, small end downward, in perfectly dry bran and kept in a temperature, but just above freezing, will keep good for six months or more.

House-keepers who desire to pack a few dozen for home use, when the hidden refuse to shell out, may pack in store jars and pour melted lard or tallow over them until all are covered; or, they may pack, small end downward in salt and keep in the coolest, dryest place at their command. Eggs thus packed will, if perfectly fresh and sound to begin with, keep good for nine months.

The following is the method now being used by large dealers who buy up eggs when they are cheap, and hold them until the price goes up: Make a pickle of stone lime, fine salt and water, in the following proportions: 1 bu. of lime, 1 pck. of salt, 250 qts. of water. Lime must be of the best, salt clean and the water pure. Slake the lime with a portion of the water, add the salt and the rest of the water, stir well three or four times at intervals; let it stand until settled and cold, then dip or draw off the clear liquid that is to hold the eggs. When there is 15 or 18 inches of the liquid in the cask, begin to put in the eggs, and when they lie about one foot deep cover them in some of the pickle, which is milky in appearance, made so by stirring up some of the lime particles that settled last. Continue this as each lot of eggs is added. When the eggs are within four inches of the top of the cask, cover with coarse, white cotton cloth and then spread on two or three inches of the lime that settles in making the pickle, and it is of the greatest importance that the pickle be always over this lime. A long handled dipper with the bottom punched full of holes will be found handy to put the eggs in the pickle, and also for taking them out. When the time comes for marketing the eggs they must be taken from the pickle, carefully washed and dried, and then packed the same as fresh eggs. But don't delude yourself into the belief that you can sell these limed eggs for "strictly fresh" eggs. Limed eggs are not fresh and will not bring the price of fresh eggs, but they can be sold in Winter at prices that will enable the packer to make a handsome profit on the investment.

Eggs that are to be limed, or packed in any other way, should be strictly fresh, and if possible, from hens where no male birds are kept, as such eggs will keep better than those that have been impregnated.

FANNY FIELD.

Deep vs. Shallow Plowing.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

I noticed in your issue of last week an article taken from the Cleveland *Herald* wherein a correspondent condemns in the strongest terms the practice of deep plowing. Now, while some of his ideas may, under certain circumstances, be logical enough, they are in a general sense erroneous and calculated to mislead the uninformed. The experienced farmer would, at a glance, see the absurdity of his theory and it would have no other effect than to engender in his mind a contempt for book farming in general, whereas to the young and inexperienced farmer its effects might be harmful in the extreme. It is a fact that there is a strong tendency toward slipshod farming, especially with beginners, and as it is for every one knows, much easier both for man and team to plow shallow than deep, he will nine times out of ten adopt our friend's theory of shallow plowing, and his interests will suffer accordingly. Every little while one meets with such nonsense as the above-mentioned article, and we can but wonder how such erroneous veritage gets into respectable columns. He says: Why the poor soil that we keep and plow the second time has been charged with natural fertilizing matter of sun, air, water, snow and frost, down deep and bring up the untramed, raw, obnoxious subsoil for plants to subsist upon, is amazing. I think that the whole system of inverting the soil is wrong, except when grass land is to be put into a rotation of crops." Now, if there is any meaning in the above quotation we must conclude that the author would have farmers do away with the method of breaking up land (except grass land) and only scarify or scratch over the surface. The argument contained in such a proposition is assailable in so many different parts that one hardly knows where to commence. Such a theory reduced to practice would strike at the very root of good farming. In the first place, the object of deep plowing because it brings the subsoil on top, and assumes that the subsoil does not mix with the surface soil, a statement which any one who has ever followed the plow will at once see is incorrect, for, as our improved plow throws a furrow, not more than one-third of the subsoil reaches the top, as the furrow is left standing partially on its edge, the subsoil is pretty evenly divided between the top and bottom, but if the furrow was completely inverted the subsequent preparation for the crop would of course go far below the strata of subsoil, and the young plants would not have to depend for sustenance upon the "untamed or noxious" subsoil. Nor does he seem to take into account what a difficult matter it would be to cultivate land with the surface only scratched over. "The fact is, land must be worked deep in order to get the best results. It may be that the land in our friends locality may differ from other soils. One thing is certain, if farmers in Maryland and Virginia, and in many other sections, were to adopt his views and practice shallow plowing we would have the soils in our uplands all in the bottoms in a very short time, as there is nothing like shallow plowing to make land wash. In fact our friends whole article is such a tissue of error that, as I have already said, only the uniformed and inexperienced will be affected by it. C. H. LARNE, Bellsville, Prince George's Co., Md.

Hints on Sweet Potatoes and Their Culture.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

Since my article on sweet potato plants appeared in a recent issue of the BLADE, I am led to believe that no paper in this great country reaches points so remote, for I have received letters from the Pacific coast and from the Gulf of Mexico, and from away North and East, asking information as to the best mode of culture of the sweet potato; the adaptation of certain varieties to certain kinds of soil and climate; how to pack plants for shipment, and numerous other questions which I prefer to answer through the BLADE FARM for the benefit of all who are interested in this crop.

The culture of the sweet potato is on the increase in this country and we are glad to note a seeming general interest awakening in the business everywhere.

It is believed by some that they must take the place, to a great extent, of Irish potatoes before long, since the latter has become such an uncertain crop, remunerative only when season happen to be just right for their growth and maturity. The sweet potato has the instructive insect enemies neither, and its nature needs only to be fully understood to make it a sure crop one year with another, and to be able to preserve perfectly for winter use.

In my experience I have never found any variety that seemed adapted to a greater diversity of climate than the Jersey, succeeding well as far down as Florida, or under the burning rays of a tropical sun. Its quality, too, as all who have tested it knows, is unsurpassed. The Bermuda, too, is well worthy of notice on account of its wonderful productiveness and adaptability to any kind of soil. I have often grown them, single potatos weighing from four to six pounds, and let me say that in the absence of the Jersey they are a good Irish to say the least. They do well as far north as Central Michigan. The Early Red is also a choice variety, suited to any kind of ground, but being early is not quite so productive as the Jersies. The Southern Queen, Red Yam and White Yam are great yielders, and in quality fully equal to the Bermudas, but require a warm season and not too short a one to perfect a crop.

I would say, sandy or gravelly soil is preferable for any and all varieties, for, as a general rule, the yield will be larger and the quality better from such ground. Clay soil, however, if well pulverized before planting and not allowed to take too much afterward, will often produce surprising yields and of good quality.

In selecting the ground for a seed potato patch, choose something that is rather poor if you have it and put on little or much manure unless ground is very thin indeed, and then let it be something fine. Never put on horse or strawy manure, as it has the effect to dry out the ground in the ridges and thus check the growth of the tubers.

There is an erroneous idea prevalent among some people that the more manure they get on their sweet potato ground the better their chances for a rousing crop of vines and a few almost worthless roots. After plowing the ground it should be well pulverized and thrown up in ridges with the plow and afterward dressed down with hoe to, say 10 inches high and 10 or 12 inches wide on top. Set the plants 12 to 14 inches apart (not later than the middle of June to insure a crop), water them well and afterward draw some dry ground around them to prevent baking. Keep them shaded when the sun shines, for a day or two, to prevent their wilting, after which, it is not necessary.

In packing plants for shipping long distances there is nothing equal to moss for keeping them fresh and green. Envelope each hundred plants in moss as soon as they are taken from the hot-bed and dip the roots in water to keep them from wilting, set closely into the box, and they are fixed for several days journey for that matter. Plants can easily be prepared in this way, too, to go by mail in small quantities.—T. G. BROSIUS, Tiffin, O.

Answers to Inquiries.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

TICKS ON SHEEP.—Two lbs. of sulphur mixed with an equal amount of salt is thoroly effectual for 100 head of sheep. Give internally. Make two doses of it, giving both doses inside of five days.—E. P. MCCASLIN, Austin, Ind.

SCABBY SHEEP.—Feed sulphur in their salt for six or eight weeks, then take old grease and mix sulphur with it, and with an old broom or brush dope them well, and I will insure a cure. M. LANK, Oxford, Ind.

Information Wanted.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm.

LISTED CORN.—Will some of the readers of the FARM, who have had experience, tell me how to cultivate listed corn?—R. A. ELKINS, Christian, Neb.

KIDNEY WORM.—Will some one give me a remedy for "kidney worm" in hogs? Either temporary or permanent.—E. P. MCCASLIN, Austin, Ind.

Fanny Field, in the *Ohio Farmer*, says that many of the mysterious ailments that afflict young chicks are caused by lack of constitutional vigor on the part of the parent fowls. If you breed from fowls that have been overstimulated by egg food, or from those whose constitutions have been weakened by disease, the chicks will be a sickly lot, just as surely as two and two make four. Look to the pickle be always over this lime. A long handled dipper with the bottom punched full of holes will be found handy to put the eggs in the pickle, and also for taking them out. When the time comes for marketing the eggs they must be taken from the pickle, carefully washed and dried, and then packed the same as fresh eggs. But don't delude yourself into the belief that you can sell these limed eggs for "strictly fresh" eggs. Limed eggs are not fresh and will not bring the price of fresh eggs, but they can be sold in Winter at prices that will enable the packer to make a handsome profit on the investment.

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Hens and Chickens in the Fruit Yard.

Poultry get a good share of their living from insects, provided they have the opportunity. The fruit yard, to our sorrow, is often too much frequented by noxious insects. By a bringing together of the fowls and vermin, double good is accomplished; the former are fed and the latter destroyed.

Chickens are very fond of fruit, and will devour it soon after it drops from the trees, and in this way both the worthless fruit and the insects usually contained in it will be consumed. One of the most successful fruit growers we are acquainted with keeps poultry and finds that nearly all times, and he finds that they do much to make his fruit what it is—fair to the eye, pleasant to the taste, and filling to the pocket-book.—*Poultry Keeper.*

Utilizing Bones.

Not many years ago the bones of animals had no money value and were considered useless rubbish. Later they came into use for making buttons, knife-handles, common piano keys, etc., then for making phosphorus for friction matches and other purposes, the demand for them increasing very rapidly. Soon their value as fertilizers was recognized, and now the farmer who does not save and make good use of all the bones he can find on his place is behind the times.

In the processes where large quantities of bones are used, they supply a valuable by-product in the way of fats or fatty acids which are extensively used in the manufacture of soaps and other articles of commerce.

Two prominent bone products enter largely into daily use, viz., glue and animal charcoal. The value of these two products aggregates millions of dollars annually.

Such facts show the value of things too often overlooked, or so little esteemed as to be permitted to go to waste.

Farmers generally understand that the chief fertilizing property of bones is the phosphate of lime they contain, amounting to half their dry weight. The organic part, that which can be burned out, or will decay out in time, contains much nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen and sulphur, the nitrogen being valuable as a fertilizer.

The reduction of bones goes on rapidly in contact with fermenting matters. They should be broken small and placed in a compost heap with ashes, then covered with a thick layer of earth and the mass kept moist. It is better if moistened with liquid manure.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Farm Notes.

The frosts damaged peaches in Alabama and Georgia.

It is estimated that 90 per cent. of the cows "come in" between February 1 and June 1.

An English court lately decided the docking of cattle an unwarrantable cruelty, punishable by statute.

A movement is on foot in Philadelphia to compel the concoctors of bogus butter to color it pink instead of yellow.

It is claimed that in Boston from 100,000 to 150,000 pounds of oleomargarine and other imitations of butter are sold each week.

Josiah Hooper says, in the New York *Tribune*, that after an experience of 20 years he is convinced that plums budded on peach stocks are decidedly superior for light soils.

Professor James Law of the Treasury Cattle Commission, report to the Secretary of the Treasury that there is no foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle in Kansas, Illinois and Iowa, as reported.

In making any operation upon animals of any kind, care should always be taken to make the opening low down, so that the pus which forms in the healing, can escape. If this is not done, the retained pus produces an abscess with inflammation, which is often fatal.

There are in Australia in round numbers 90,000,000 of sheep, divided among the seven colonies abroad, as follows: New South Wales, 35,500,000; Victoria, 13,000,000; West Australia, 4,000,000; South Australia, 8,000,000; Queensland, 13,500,000; Tasmania, 2,000,000; New Zealand, 13,000,000; total, 89,000,000.

Farmers in England are taking to beet growing. In Norfolk they have undertaken to grow this season at least 900 acres of sugar beet from selected seed, and on the faith of this an association has been formed, which, long before the beet is ready, will have $100,000 worth of plants on the ground ready to make sugar as fast as the roots come in.

The New England Tobacco Growers' Association has inaugurated a movement to secure the repeal of all internal revenue taxes on tobacco growers. The packers and trade generally throughout the country are to unite in favor of the plan. A movement has been started for effecting a coalition with Southern and Western politicians and the tobacco men.

The interests of humanity seem to demand the publication of the following facts: Two months ago my attention was called to the case of a poor woman who was said to be afflicted with a cancer. I found her with an ulcer on her shoulder at least five inches in circumference, angry, painful and giving the patient no rest day or night for six months. I obtained a supply of Swift's Specific, which I persuaded her to try. She has taken five bottles, the result of which is that the ulcer is entirely healed up, nothing remaining but a small scab, not larger than one's finger nail, and her general health is better than for five years past. She seems to be perfectly cured.

An old man of 67 years has been subject to scrofulous sores five years. He had one on his cheek as large as a silver dollar, swollen, raw and constantly exuding very offensive matter. Another on his foot of the same character, and several on his hands, all of about two and a half years standing. His general health was poor, and he could scarcely get about at all. He has taken two bottles of Swift's Specific. The sores are all well leaving scarcely a vestige of their former existence, and his general health better than it has been in ten years. I consider its effects wonderful—almost miraculous. REV. JESSE H. CAMPBELL, Columbus, Ga., Oct. 17, 1882.

The Sunday School.

Justification by Faith.

LESSON 10, SUNDAY JUNE 8, 1884.

Golden Text—Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.—Rom. 5: 1.

LESSON TEXT.

Rom. 3: 19 31.

19. Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

20. Therefore, by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

21. But now the right ousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets:

22. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference.

23. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24. Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus;

25. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26. To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

27. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay; but by the law of faith.

28. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

29. Is he the God of the Jews only? Is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also.

30. Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

31. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid; yea, we establish the law.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

What things soever the law saith, it speaketh to them that are under the law; that every mouth may be stopped (v. 19.) Many a man is ready to say, in sweeping terms, that he has tried to do about right, and that he is reasonably satisfied with his life record. But if you can bring any such man to look at God's law in detail, requirement by requirement, he will have to admit, if he says nothing at all, that he has not lived up to that law, by any manner of means. There is not much comfort for us sinners in the Ten Commandments. If we are to have our deserts according to our performances by that standard, we are lost. There can be no question on that point. And the severest putting of the Ten Commandments which the world ever knew, was the Sermon on the Mount. If any man could bring himself to say that he has not been guilty of a breach of the Ten Commandments, as he understands them, the Sermon on the Mount will stop his mouth effectually. He knows he is lost forever, if he is to be judged by the laws's requirements as they are there defined and elaborated. It is true that there men so thoughtless or so shameless as to say that they want no other gospel than the Sermon on the Mount, but they are men whose mouths ought to be stopped in the face of that inspired demand for absolute holiness in life and in thought and in heart; for those things are spoken that every mouth which would claim heaven as a right may be stopped by the sinner's recognition of his violations of God's law as there disclosed and applied.

Through the law cometh the knowledge of sin (v. 20.) It is not that the law creates sin, but that the law shows what is sin. Man has no way of knowing what is right and what is wrong except as God declares it to him. A man may want to do right or want to do wrong, he may intend to do right or intend to do wrong, without being sure what is right or what is wrong; but it is only when God's law defines the limit of right and wrong that man can know what is sin. A man's uninstructed conscience tells him that he ought to do right, but it does not tell him what is right. It is by God's law that a knowledge of sin comes to man. Until a man knows what sin is, he cannot be sure whether he is sinning or not, while he is doing as well as he knows how. But you and I have the law to show us what is sin, and we have our own consciousness to show us how often and how grievously we have sinned.

The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all them that believe; for there is no distinction (v. 22.) There is no distinction in God's sight; but there are very marked distinctions in man's sight. Man makes a clear distinction between a little sinner and a great sinner; and man's ideas of the relative magnitude of sin are to his own framing. Man is prone to come to attach more importance to a sin against man than to sin against God. Stealing or getting drunk is commonly supposed to be a more real and a more flagrant sin, than refusing to acknowledge one's need of a personal Savior, or to trust one's self to the one Savior provided against guilt and its consequences. And there is no time when men are readier to make distinctions in sins and in sinners than when they are discussing the case of one who has just died from among them. If he was a man who sinned greatly according to their measuring of sins they admit that he needed a Savior; but if he was what is called a fairly upright man in his outward conduct—why, isn't it possible that he went to heaven on his merits! After all, wasn't it a little uncharitable for Paul to insist that everybody needs a Savior; that there is no distinction; "for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That is a question that is well worth considering.

Do we then make the law of none effect through faith? God forbid; nay, we establish the law (v. 31.) The gospel of Christ does not do away with the requirements of the law of God. It simply shows a way of salvation to those who fail of obeying that still binding law. Every vital requirement of God's fundamental law is as real and as important now as thirty centuries ago. Not one of us is entitled to violate God's law in a jot or a tittle, on the strength of our discipleship of Christ, or of our trust in him for salvation. But as all of us have broken that law, and as all of us are liable to violate its requirements, we commit ourselves as sinners to Him who has fulfilled that law, and who has a right to save from under its very curse those who commit them selves to him. "Do we then make the law of none effect through faith? God forbid; nay, we establish the law."—*H. Clay Trumbull in Sunday School Times.*

Appetite and Digestion.

With few exceptions, the first effects of the new Vitalizing Treatment of Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1109 Girard street, Philadelphia, is an improvement in appetite and digestion. The skin grows clearer, the eyes brighter, the movements more elastic. There is a sense of lightness and comfort. The chest begins to expand and the weight to increase. All the depressed or sluggish functions of the body take on a better action, and there is a gradual return to a more healty condition. If the Treatment is continued, and the laws of health carefully observed, restoration, unless the physical condition is too far broken down, will follow in nearly every case. All desired information in regard to this remarkable Treatment will be furnished by Drs. Starkey & Palen. Write to them and your communication will get a prompt response.

BLUE MONDAY.

The man who knows how everything will turn out never has any money to bet on it, and that is why he is kept poor.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

It is said that Ferdinand Ward was in the habit of buying strawberries in January. That accounts for $10,000,000, but where did the other $4,000,000 go?—*New York Graphic.*

"I always carry everything in my head," said a young man the other day.

"Yes," cruelly replied Cynicus, "you can find most everything in a lumber room."—*Boston Budget.*

A number of English and Scotch capitalists have bought 38,000 acres of mineral lands, near Chattanooga, Tenn, and will soon begin the erection of two blast furnaces on the tract with a capacity of 250 tons.

Sculptor Bartholdi is at Colmar, in Alsace, at the bedside of his mother, who is lingering in the last stages of a long illness, and the sculptor himself is sick—sick of hearing of the futile efforts to provide a base for his Statue of Liberty.

Some one has been selling the London *Truth*, which publishes the following paragraph: "In New York the latest foolish freak is for bald men to paint their heads as a part of their full dress. At a recent entertainment one individual's scalp was covered with a carefully painted battle piece, another with a group of fish and shells, while a third displayed a copy of one of Mr. Vanderbilt's Meissoniers."

A husband agreed to count 100 whenever he got a little provoked and his wife was to do the same. The other day he became annoyed over a contrary stovepipe, and his wife shouted; "Now count 100!" and he did so, while she stood by laughing at him. Did it appease his wrath? Oh, dear, no! He got madder and madder, and as she last note died away he kicked the top off the stove, killed a fine Maltese mouser and laid waste over $500 worth of new, kitchen furniture.—*Philadelphia Call.*

News of the Week

POLITICAL POINTS.

BUSINESS MEN'S MEETING.

NEW YORK, May 20.—The great mass meeting of citizens and business men, called to express approval of the Administration of Pres. Arthur, and urge his renomination for a second term, was held at Cooper Union. A more orderly and intelligent assemblage was never before seen in this City. At 7:30 every seat in the building was occupied, and half an hour later, when Cornelius N. Bliss, of Bliss, Fabyan & Co., called the meeting to order, not another person could find standing room. Throngs still continued to pour into the doorways, until finally at 10 minutes past 8, the commander of police gave orders to close the doors.

Among the audience were large numbers of ladies. Seats were provided upon the platform for about 60 people. Among the prominent persons present were Cornelius N. Bliss, Fred S. Winston, Henry Ward Beecher, Benjamin H. Bristow, Edward Pierpont, Assistant United States Treasurer L. C. Acton, Surrogate D. C. Rollings, Dr. C. R. Agnew, Legrand B. Cannon, Jesse Seligman, Salem H. Wales, and Samuel Sloan. The Siamese Minister came in just before the meeting opened, and with the members of his suite were given seats on the platform.

Cornelius Bliss, in a brief speech, stated the object for which the meeting was called. He said it was an unusual thing for business men to have a voice in choosing candidates for the Presidency, as this was the work of those who were supposed to be better versed in public affairs. Political papers had endeavored to depreciate the efforts of business men in the present instance, and had insinuated that, at the present time especially, it would be better for business men to attend to their own business, and look after their stocks and bonds and merchandise, instead of meddling with politics. They would take the liberty, however, in spite of these unfair comments, to express their views in the matter, and urge the renomination of a man who, although he came into office under such trying circumstances, had proved himself so worthy of the great charge entrusted to him by the people, and whose Administration had met with such signal success. [Applause.] Pres. Arthur was certain to receive the vote of New York State, which could not be said of any other candidate, and it was only right his fellow-citizens should meet and express their approval of his course, and urge his renomination as the one man who possessed the entire confidence of the greatest business community of the new world. Mr. Bliss concluded by introducing Fred S. Winston, President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, as Chairman of the meeting.

Mr. Winston characterized Pres. Arthur as a man of the highest integrity, and in every way worthy of support. Men of all classes were centering upon Pres. Arthur. He denied this was a class meeting, and asserted that it was a mass meeting of all citizens. Everyone felt the importance of having a good candidate with the present crisis, and he felt certain their efforts would be crowned with success in November next.

A long line of Vice Presidents, including the names of the most prominent business men, was read, and resolutions in the most heartiest spirit of the meeting adopted. Parke Goodwin, editor of the Commercial Advertiser, made a short speech, and then Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was presented. He said:

"A most excellent evening paper in Brooklyn, whose editor I esteem very highly, because he esteems me very highly [laughter], not long ago, in a playful assault, said that Mr. Beecher used to pour into the doorways, until finally at 10 minutes past 8, the commander of police gave orders to close the doors. [Laughter.] I am here to verify every word of that. I was not prejudiced in Mr. Arthur's favor. I was, on the contrary, displeased with him, and I regarded the success of his administration as being very uncertain; but I have been won from those prejudices by the noble Progress which he has made and presides administration. [Applause.] I am therefore a witness from the other side, and it is just like Mr Beecher, and I hope it will be to the day of his death, that, when he finds himself on the wrong side, to get over on the other. [Long continued applause.] I am here, not as a clergyman, but as a business man. This is an assemblage of business men, not of capitalists, or of monopolists, or of so-called bondholders, as we have been termed by, I was going to say, raving madmen, but I will be charitable and will call them ill-natured men. I hold that the business part of the community represents, in many respects, the best interests of our whole country, and business men, perhaps more than any others, require a stable government. They do not care so much about policies, because they can adapt themselves to policies, but they do want to be able to look forward to a stable and uniform policy of the Government. The business community can adapt themselves to almost any condition, and all they ask is, 'Let us alone; when once we have established ourselves on any one line, we will take care of the consequences.' We have not here simply as a voice, to suggest to the Convention at Chicago who it is for. A part of the Republicans of New York, together with as many Democrats as God has made rational and intelligent. [Applause and laughter.] We are not here to inveigh against any other prominent gentleman, nor make threats that if our choice is not nominated we won't play. [Laughter.] We express our wishes and then the minority submits itself to the majority. Who is Arthur? He is a man who has proved himself, under trying circumstances, one of the most able presiding officers this Nation ever had. That he has been subject to so little criticism is marvelous. The bitterness of men (whose names should be inveigh instead of MacVeagh) displayed toward Mr. Arthur is nothing compared to the invication heaped upon Washington, and so as to Jackson, Lincoln and Grant, up to Hayes; and when Hayes took the Presidency, the country had been scorched with the fires of war and, as a physician applies sweet oil poultices to the skin of scalded men, so the Nation needed a poultice, and got it. [Loud laughter.] When elected Vice President, Mr. Arthur had been an ardent New York politician, loyal to the party and to his friends, carrying himself, perhaps, beyond the line of prudence; but I honor a man whose imprudence springs from the integrity and loyalty of his heart. [Applause.] If by his acts any man ever earned a renomination, Mr. Arthur deserves his. I don't say the non-election of Arthur is going to ruin the country. The country will prosper, whoever is President. But it is certainly the case that its prosperity is assured, so far as it can be assured by the action of any one man, if we put back into his place that man who has, to the admiration of his friends and the surprise of his political antagonists, conducted the Government so well. I leave the question with you, saying simply this: I know not how you can do better. I know that this country don't need to have any better President than Chester A. Arthur."

Hon. Benjamin H. Bristow also spoke. He referred to the wonderful change in the election in New York last year in the election of a Republican Legislature, and the remarkable accessions to the ranks of Republican Presidential candidates. This change the speaker attributed in great part to the moderation, wisdom and quiet dignity of Pres. Arthur's administration. By refusing the use of the power of his great office in the interest of factions, he has promoted harmony in the party ranks. The ex-Secretary declared the business men of this City and country for Arthur for publican acts, for they had an opinion, and dared to express it, that the course of Pres. Arthur's administration was good, and would on the whole, be for the best interests of the country. The orator closed with the following reference to the letter of Mr. MacVeagh, published this morning:

"If the condition of our postal service is such that it becomes necessary to transmit letters of friendly advice and admonition through the public press, there is grievous cause for complaint. I commend this matter to the attention of our excellent Postmaster General, who, I hope, will be able to correct the abuse without the employment of a large number of lawyers, eminent and otherwise, at great expense, and with small results. My distinguished friend, who has been put to the inconvenience of rushing into print to find me points for a speech, does not seem to quite understand that this meeting was called by free and independent voters, who have the habit of thinking for themselves on all matters of public concern, and who have no other end in view than the public good. I must decline his invitation to go into the slums of personal defamation. He invites me to consider various reminiscences, with which I have no concern, and as to which I have not enjoyed equal means of knowledge with himself. Incidents of Pres. Hayes's administration fortunately are no longer living topics, and we are not here to lift the veil of oblivion. The so-called alliance with Mahone in Virginia, is a matter which came down to the present Administration from the past. It had its origin in the Senate, and is understood to have the approval of the preceding Administration, of which my valued friend was an honorable and conspicuous member. I regret, and shall pass over without comment those slurs and insinuations, so unworthy of their author, which Mr. MacVeagh permits himself to make touching the circumstances under which Gen. Arthur had imposed on him the constitutional duty of taking the office of President. I know not what secret bitterness betrayed my friend into expressions which ordinarily his good taste and fine feeling would be the first to condemn. If Pres. Arthur has always been unworthy of praise, as my friend describes, I leave him to justify or excuse his own act in supporting him for the Vice Presidency, and taking the office of first legal adviser in an Administration in which Gen. Arthur stood second by the people's choice."

Mr. Bristow retired amid cheers, and after a few other speeches the meeting adjourned. A committee of one hundred will be appointed to go to Chicago.

CHICAGO, May 20.—A telegram, signed by the Presidents of the First Commercial National Banks, by John V. Farwell, Philip D. Armour, Henry Keep, O. W. Potter, and other representatives of large commercial and financial interests, was sent to-night to the business men's meeting at New York, in behalf of Pres. Arthur's nomination. The dispatch expresses appreciation of the importance of the call for that meeting, endorses the spirit and sentiments of that call, and believes Pres. Arthur should be nominated, both in justice to the welfare of the whole country and one who has made so good a President.

BEN BUTLER.

NEW YORK, May 22.—Gen. Butler accepts the nomination of the National Anti-Monopoly organization for President of the United States in the following letter of acceptance:

LOWELL, MASS., May 21.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to receive your courteous note giving me the action of the Convention at Chicago, the 14th inst., of representatives of Anti Monopoly. The honor of designation by such a body as a candidate for the Presidency of the Republic cannot be too highly appreciated. Concurring in each measure of public policy set forth in the resolutions, I need only add if the votes of the electors shall intrust me with the executive powers of that high office, each of them will be fully justified and energetically used to make sure of every relief to the people and reform in government pointed out by your platform of principles, realities of administration. Accept for yourselves, personally, my most grateful consideration.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

LOUISIANA WOMEN TAKE A HAND IN POLITICS.

NEW ORLEANS, May 22.—Yesterday witnessed a remarkable scene at Alexandria, in Rapides Parish, on the Red River. It was the day fixed by the police jury for the vote on the question of liquor license or prohibition. The women of the Parish, black and white, determined to take a hand in it, and rallied to the polls at 7 o'clock in the morning, and remained until the polls closed, cheering and encouraging the willing and laboring with the doubtful voters, and supplying hot coffee and cold lemonade to all who would partake. This was done under the direction of members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, specially detailed to manage the affair, and she did her part in a way to outgeneral the liquor dealers for the first time in the history of Louisiana. The ladies turned out en masse, and deserve great credit for their enthusiasm in the cause of reformation. Nearly everyone, black and white, wore a badge with the words, "Education and Prohibition." There is great rejoicing now, with the firing of cannon.

FUSION IN WEST VIRGINIA.

WHEELING, May 22.—The Greenback Convention at Buchanan nominated Judge Edwin C. Maxwell, of Harrison County, for Governor; C. F. Burdett, of Ohio, for Auditor; Spence W. Surm, of Marion County, Treasurer, and J. N. Kendall, of Ritchie County, Superintendent of Free Schools. Judge Maxwell is a Republican. The rest of the State ticket is left for the Republicans to name, and the two parties will fuse in the October and November elections. The electoral nominations were left to the Executive Committee.

VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.

PETERSBURG, May 22.—The Republican ticket is elected. The Republicans carried every ward in the City except one.

RICHMOND, May 22.—All the Democratic City officers and members of the City Council were elected. Only about one-fourth of the full vote was polled.

DANVILLE, May 22.—The election passed off without disturbance. The Democratic or "white party" nominees were elected. Capt. W. F. Graves beats J. H. Johnston, the present incumbent, for Mayor, by 400 votes. Nearly every white vote was polled, and about 20 negros voted the Democratic ticket; 100 did not vote. Gov. Cameron came up this morning and remained till afternoon. Mayor Johnston was hanged in effigy. There was a torchlight procession to-night.

GENERAL.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 23.—The Democrats of the Fourth Congressional District renominated Wm. S. Holman on the first ballot.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 23.—The Democratic platform favors the nomination of Tilden and Hendricks. The delegates-at-large elected are all for Tilden.

ALBANY, May 22.—The Democratic State Convention is called for June 18, at Saratoga.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—There is great rejoicing among the followers of Pres. Arthur, both in and out of Congress, over the success given to the Arthur boom by the business men's meeting in New York. One enthusiastic New Yorker stood in the rotunda of Willard's Hotel offering to bet $1,000, as between Blaine and Arthur, the latter would receive the nomination.

EMPORIA, Kan., May 23.—The Republicans of the Third District nominated, by acclamation, Thomas Ryan for re-election.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 22.—Sen. Cameron, who arrived here yesterday, stated that he would not attend the Chicago Convention in any capacity. As to the story that he would turn up as a substitute, he had never thought of such a thing. He expressed a decided disinclination to interfere with the nomination of a Republican candidate for President, but said he hoped a very strong man would be chosen. Sen. Cooper states that he and Judge Ewing, of Fayette, one of Blaine's cousins, are here to induce Sen. Cameron to favor a united delegation from Pennsylvania for Blaine. Cooper called on Sen. Cameron, but failed to draw him out.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A business men's movement on behalf of Sen. Sherman as a Presidential candidate has proceeded so far in a very quiet but business-like way.

"It has not been our aim," said a gentleman prominently connected with the movement, "to make any decided splurge over this matter, but we propose to have the nominating Convention know that the man who really commands the confidence of the business portion of this community is the Republican Senator from Ohio. When a man goes through the business centers of New York and begins to talk politics, there is only one man who begins to inspire the confidence which Sherman does. Let the Republicans nominate him, and New York will respond in a way that will be worth listening to, and in a manner that will not be misunderstood."

ROCHESTER, May 23.—The Brewers' Association adopted the following:

WHEREAS, Temperance politicians instigate and make use of such misrepresentations, and, aided by sentimentalism, hypocrisy, selfishness and fanaticism on the one hand and insidable, honest, but misdirected intention on the other, bring about the enactment of prohibitory or unduly restrictive laws, and thus drag our business into politics, it is hereby

Resolved, That in self-defense the United States Brewers' Association is forced by its opponents to abandon the policy of political independence heretofore maintained as one of its principles, and to declare that as an organization we shall in the future exert our influence in support of that political party which adopts and carries out an unprejudiced, rational, discriminating and tolerant policy in the legal treatment of our business and in dealing with the problem of intemperance in the true sense of this much abused word.

ERIE, May 26.—The Dispatch of this City prints the result of a thorough canvass of New York State by Congressional Districts. The question was, who can carry New York? Replies were received from Congressmen, Judges, etc., of all Republican factions besides from a dozen to forty leading Republicans in each Congressional District in the State. The Dispatch finds Edmunds leading in the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 17th, and 30th Districts; Arthur in the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

WASHINGTON, May 23.

SENATE.—House bill to provide for the muster and pay of certain officers and enlisted men of volunteer forces passed. The Senate resumed consideration of the bill to provide for protecting the interests of the United States in respect to any incumbrance on property wherein they have an interest. Beck said that under the letter of the act the President could pay off the Union Pacific Railroad mortgage. He was not prepared to vest so vast a power in an executive officer. Authority to pay out $50,000,000 or $60,000,000 was a large authority, and if we should pay railroad mortgages and acquire railroads we had better go into the business of running roads. Springer supported the bill. He said instances frequently occurred in which the Government lost large sums of money because of lack of authority in executive officers to pay off prior liens. After further debate the question went over. Blair yielded to Logan, who asked and obtained unanimous consent to take up and dispose of the annual pension appropriation bill, which was passed at reported by the Senate Committee. The Labor Bureau bill was taken up, and Blair withdrew a number of amendments, leaving the bill as it came from the House. Aldrich moved a substitute, which was agreed to—yeas, 38; nays, 18—and the bill as amended was then passed—yeas, 55; nays, 2, (Colquitt and Saulsbury.)

The bill as passed provides for the establishment in the Department of the Interior of a Bureau of Labor, under charge of a Commissioner of Labor, to be appointed by the President, to hold office three years, salary $3,000 a year, who shall collect information on labor, its relation to capital, home labor, wages, condition of laboring men, etc. A Chief Clerk, salary $2,000, is to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The total expense is not to exceed $25,000 a year.

The Utah bill was taken up, but the Senate went into Executive session and soon adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Kellogg said some weeks since, learning that evidence had been taken by the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice reflecting on him, he had sent his attorneys to the Committee with a request that the whole matter be investigated thoroughly and completely. The Committee declined to make the investigation, on the ground it had no authority. He then referred to the case against him, asserting that the prosecuting had its origin in malice on the one hand and selfish motives on the other. The impression had gone forth to the country that he had been indicted for bribery. He had been indicted under the statute which provides that no member of Congress shall receive compensation for services rendered before a department of the Government, a statute a quarter of a century old, and never before invoked. He risked nothing in saying it had been violated a thousand times. It was a war measure, and there never had been an action instituted under it before. But he did not urge that as a palliation or excuse, by no means. He affirmed and he would prove that he rendered no such services or received no compensation for services rendered before any department of the Government.

He was then proceeding to detail the circumstances attending the preparation of the case against him before the grand juries, in order to show the prosecution against him was instigated by malice, when Morrison interrupted with the point that the gentleman's remarks did not present a question of privilege, thereupon Kellogg offered a resolution reciting that in the investigation as to the prosecution in the star route cases before the Committee on Expenditures evidence had been given which reflects upon his character, and directing that a Committee investigate the subject of his alleged connection with the star route service, and whether he received money for his services in the matter pending before one of the departments of the Government, or whether he paid money to any officer on account of or in connection with said service. In speaking on the resolution, Kellogg referred to his recent trial and denied he had pleaded the statute of limitations.

Hammond moved to lay the resolution on the table, but subsequently withdrew it and moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Judiciary, with leave to report it back any time for consideration. If that committee should report that under the circumstances this case was one which the House ought to investigate, he would withdraw his opposition. The motion was agreed to—32 to 47. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar. The bill providing for the retirement of Col. Henry J. Hunt as Major-General gave rise to a good deal of discussion. In opposing the measure Springer took occasion to speak in strong commendation of the bill to retire Gen. Grant, and give him a pension of $10,-125 a year simply because he had been unfortunate in Wall street. It was said Gen. Grant had not been aware of the dealings of his partners, but the fact remained he had associated himself with speculators who were involved in the most disreputable practices which had ever been heard of in this country, and were only paralleled in other periods of excitement. The South Sea bubble and John Law's Mississippi scheme. This was not the time nor were the circumstances such as called upon Congress to go to Grant's relief. The bill was laid aside, with favorable recommendation. The bill for the payment of Quartermaster's claims, known as Fourth of July claims, was taken up, considered, and laid aside, with favorable recommendation. It appropriates $40,000, about half of which goes to citizens of Tennessee. The Committee rose and passed the bill.

The House, at the evening session, passed 46 pension bills, including one of $50 per month to the widow of Gen. Ord.

WASHINGTON, May 26.

SENATE.—Bills reported favorably and placed on the calendar: To provide for two additional Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of Dakota; to authorize the appointment of a committee by the President to run and mark the boundary line between a portion of Indian Territory and the State of Texas, in connection with a similar committee to be appointed by the State of Texas; the bill heretofore passed by the Senate extending until December 31, 1884, the duration of the Court of Alabama Claims, with the recommendation that the Senate non-concur in the House amendment extending the time one year longer. On the vote to concur Bayard called the yeas and nays, which resulted in yeas 29, nays 19, so the Senate concurred in the amendment of the House extending the Court till December 31, 1884. Pendleton reported favorably a bill to forfeit unearned land grants of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad, and restore the same to settlement. The Utah bill was then placed before the Senate, and Hoar proceeded to speak in its favor. Ingalls reported a substitute for the joint resolution introduced by Jackson proposing an amendment to the Constitution in relation to terms of office of President and Vice President. The amendment provided for in Ingalls' substitute is as follows: Executive power shall be vested in the President; the President and Vice President hereafter elected shall hold their offices for the term of six years, but the President shall not be re-eligible, nor shall the Vice President be eligible to the office of President if he shall have exercised the same in case of vacancy therein.

Brown offered the following amendment to the Utah bill: "That the voluntary sexual intercourse of a married person with one of the opposite sex, not the husband or wife of such married person, shall be the cause, and only cause, for absolute divorce from the bond of marriage in the District of Columbia and the Territories of the United States, and all other places subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States; but Courts may, in proper cases, as at common law, grant divorce from bed and board in said District, Territories, or other places subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States." Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The majority report of the Committee on Elections unseats McKinley, and declares Wallace entitled to the seat. The minority resolution confirms the right of the sitting member. Speeches were delivered by Turner (Ga.) and Adams (N. Y.) in support of the contestant's case, and by Hepburn, Robertson (Ky.) and E. B. Taylor (Ohio) in support of the contestee. Robertson is the only Democratic member of the Committee on Elections who signed the minority report, and he appealed to his side of the House not to vote to unseat McKinley, as to do so they would have to vote contrary to the law and facts of the case. Pending further debate the matter went over for the present. Belford introduced a bill appropriating $50,000 for the erection of a home for disabled soldiers of the Confederate army at Fredericksburg, Va. Referred. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—The Senate took up the bill to grant the Cincinnati & Carksford Railroad Company the right of way through a portion of Yellowstone Park. Conger submitted an amendment to limit the Company's control to 100 feet in width and prohibiting the Company from erecting buildings except for station purposes.

Logan opposed the bill. There was, he said, a disposition to "gobble up" everything in connection with the park by railroads and hotel companies. He (Logan) had found 15 cabins and hotels in their park. A Department of the United States Government had divided up into seven parts the 10 acres which the law allowed to be rented, and placed one company in possession of all the hotel privileges in the park and drove everybody else out; and now Congress was to be made the foot ball to be kicked about by men outside of it for their own personal gain. He (Logan) would have to do some plain speaking on this subject, even if it caused pain. He had been "lobbied" more this winter in behalf of this railroad by an official of this Government who was in receipt of $5 000 a year, than he ever had been lobbied in his life. Of course he knew the gentlemen, but thought it in a very bad taste for an officer of the Department having charge of the park to become a lobbyist for the destruction of the park. Whatever that gentleman may think of his (Logan's) remarks, was immaterial. That gentleman and Logan had always been good friends, but he (Logan) lost his respect for any man that would lobby for a corporation. He protested against the destruction of the park.

Vest gave details of the management of the park, and said every word stated by Logan was true.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

ENGLAND.

The festival in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the death of John Wyckliffe, the earliest English reformer and translator of the Bible, began Wednesday at St. Andrew's Church, Blackfriars. The church is on the site of the monastery where the Pope's bull against Wyckliffe was read. Dissenters of all denominations are represented. The Bishop of Liverpool preached. Samuel Morley has promised £100 toward a fund to be used in giving publicity to Wyckliffe's works.——In the Commons the bill amending the Irish Laborers' Act of 1883 was rejected—138 to 75.——There has been a terrific cyclone in Akyab, British Burmah. Immense damage is reported.——The second game of the American lacrosse team in England was with Lancashire opponents. The Americans won—4 to 0.——The failure of the Oriental Bank has impoverished many people and has driven nearly a score of men to death by suicide. No failure since the suspension of the City Bank of Glasgow has caused such wholesale ruin. The organization of the Oriental Bank Corporation was peculiar in having over 100,000 stockholders, although its capital was only £1,500,000. It had branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Maduras, Point de Galle, Singapore, Colombo, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Mauritius, Melbourne and Sydney. It was deemed second only in stability to the Bank of England, and it attracted shoals of small investments from civil service employes, spinsters, widows, doctors, clergymen, and, in fact, from all classes in the English Colonies at those points. Not being organized on the limited liability principle, each one of the shareholders in the concern is liable to the extent of his entire worldly possessions for the debts of the bank.——In the Commons Fitzmaurice, Under Foreign Secretary, stated no news had been received from Gordon since April 10. A further confidential message has been sent to Gordon.——The British ship "Syria" was wrecked off the Fiji Islands, and 70 passengers drowned. The lost passengers were coolies.

CANADA.

The Government has refused to interfere in the case of Luke Philips, sentenced to be hanged at Sandwich June 17 for the murder of his wife.

EGYPT.

Zebehr Pasha has sent messengers by three distinct routes to Khartoum, to discover Gen. Gordon's fate. It is expected the messengers will return in August.

GERMANY.

Madame Kalemine, the left-handed wife of Duke Darmstadt, will defend the Grand Duke's suit for divorce. He charges his wife concealed her misconduct before marriage.

FRANCE.

The duty on cattle and sheep is doubled. LeParis says French artists will revenge the refusal of the United States Congress to reduce the duty on works of art.

ASIA MINOR.

Severe shocks of earthquake were felt throughout the Peninsula of Cyzicus, Asia Minor. Several villages were damaged, many houses destroyed, and 20 persons killed.

List of Special Pensioners.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Commissioner of Pensions has sent to the Senate a list of the widows of officers of the Army Navy and Marine Corps now drawing pensions at the rate of $50 a month, granted by special acts of Congress. In the list appear the names of the widows of Gens. Hackelman, Richardson, Wallace, Slemmer, Stevens, Baker, Whipple, Sumner, Bidwell, Morris, Berry, Lovell, Anderson (Robert), Dyer, McPherson, Canby, Thomas (Lorenzo), Shields (James), Heintzelman, Finley, Mitchell, Casey, Louis and Charles French, Ramsen, Warren and Mechanu; also the daughter of Lieut.-Col. Zachary Taylor.

The widow of Admiral Farragut heads the naval list at $2,000 a year. The other names on the Naval and Marine Corps list are those of the widows of the following at $50 a month: Surgeon Gen. Wood, Rear Admirals Reynolds, Hoff, Bell, Davis, Winslow, Lardner, Paulding, Rodgers, Spotts, Goldsborough, Farragut, Gallagher, Commodores Findley, McCauley, McKeever, Gusto, and Cols. Harris and Dulaney, and Maj. Twiggs and Lieut. Collins, of the Marine Corps—the latter (Collins) at $40 per month.

"Calamity" Weller.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The curious course of "Calamity" Weller, of Iowa in regard to the English Berlin case continues to create a good deal of gossip. The fact that Weller, who had voted with the Republicans, made himself mysteriously absent from his seat after being seen by English, and at the critical moment, when his vote would have prevented a reconsideration of the resolution seating Poelle, creates a good deal of unfavorable remark. Weller's pretended explanation, that he wanted to go home and put on a clean shirt in order to meet his wife and daughter, who were coming in on the train, is looked upon as extremely lame and a stronger evidence of his guilt than if he had said nothing. The train on the Baltimore and Ohio road gets in about 3 o'clock, and that a member should be from 12 o'clock to that hour putting on a clean shirt to meet it, when the title of a fellow member to his seat depends on his vote, is certainly very queer.

The Oklahoma Raiders.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The following telegram concerning the movements of persons who had been trying to force their way into the Oklahoma lands, has been transmitted by the Acting Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Interior:

FT. RENO, I. T., May 9, 1884.—A courier just from Lieut. Day, who is on the Cimarron, reports that the intruders made serious resistance to his efforts to arrest 35, but many more are coming and they may overpower him by numbers. I send Capt. Carroll with all available cavalry at my post, this afternoon. I have asked the commanding officer at Fort Sill for the Second troop of cavalry at his post.

DEWEES, Major Commanding.

Grand Parade of Sunday School Children.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The Sunday school scholars of Brooklyn observed children's day this afternoon. In the grand line of march there were 66,383 children, from 102 schools, the Congregationalists leading with 11,209; Methodists, 10,516; Presbyterians, 10,310; Episcopalians, 9,401, and Baptists, 9,163. In attendance on the children were 5,731 teachers and officers. The exercises consisted of speeches and supplemented by music and refreshments. It was the grandest demonstration of the kind ever held in America.

Illinois Wheat.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 23.—The condition of the Winter wheat crop in Illinois on May 1, as reported by the State Board of Agriculture, is better in the northern portion, but not so promising in the southern portion. The area Winter killed is 14 per cent. in the northern portion; central division, 20 per cent.; southern division, 27 per cent. The average yield is now estimated at 94 per cent. in the Northern Counties, 86 in the central, and 73 in the southern. The southern division represents half the acreage of the State, which makes the average of the State about 82 per cent. of an average crop.

Low Rates for the Grand Army.

MILWAUKEE, May 23.—An agreement has been entered into by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, Chicago & Northwestern, and other roads running into Minneapolis, that the rate from Chicago to Minneapolis and return, for members of the Grand Army to the grand encampment, shall be $12 50. For interior towns in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Dakota, the rate will be one local fare for the round trip. Tickets will be good from July 20 to August 4, inclusive.

The Last One Gone.

DETROIT, May 22.—William Palmer, an old veteran, who has attained a National reputation from being the only surviving soldier who guarded Napoleon while on the Island of St. Helena, died at his home in Battle Creek last night, aged about 84.

Iowa Bank Closed.

DENISON, Ia., May 27.—The Crawford County Bank, which has been considered one of the strongest in the West, closed yesterday. Assets and liabilities not made known.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

MOUNT CLEMENS, May 23.—Chas. Wade, photographer, and his apprentice, named Douglass, went fishing yesterday. They left Belvidere at 10 o'clock last night for home in a row boat. The boat was found this morning upside down and hats were floating on the water. There seems to be no question but that they have been drowned. The river was dragged in the vicinity where the boat was found, but unsuccessfully. A strong party goes out in the morning with drags and boats.

OMAHA, Neb., May 25.—Hanley, one of the principals in the late prize fight which was organized in this City and fought in Saunders County, in this State, after a trial of a week, was sentenced to three years hard labor in the penitentiary. The trial took place in Wahoo. The case will be taken to the Supreme Court.

CINCINNATI, May 26.—Benjamin Johnson, who, with Allen Ingalls, was indicted for the murder of the Taylor family at Avondale, was found guilty of murder in the first degree, the jury having deliberated but a little more than an hour. This is the case where the murdered bodies were delivered the same evening of the killing to the Ohio Medical College and $15 apiece paid for them to Ingalls and Johnson, the murderers. Ingalls hung himself in the jail a short time ago.

ST. LOUIS, May 25.—Early this morning Mrs. Alexander Edmont, wife of a railroad engineer, while suffering from an insane attack, took a razor and cut the throats of her babe, aged three months, and a four-year-old daughter, killing them instantly. Going to the next room she attempted to cut the throat of a six-year-old daughter, but the latter screamed and awakened her father, and the wound was only a cut, not serious. Mrs. Edmont went back to her room, lay down beside her dead babies, and cut her own throat. The wound is very severe, but not necessarily mortal. She had an insane attack several years ago, but was supposed to be cured.

WHEELING, W. Va., May 25.—At Nathkinsville recently three young girls intended to play an innocent practical joke on Arthur Knowlton, a rather airy young clerk in the principal general store in the town. To this end they liberally seasoned a pie with a white powder which they supposed to be Epsom salts, but which proved to be a deadly drug. At a picnic the clerk ate heartily of the pie, and his sickness took another and alarming direction from what the young ladies expected. He eventually recovered, and meeting one of the young ladies on the street cut a switch from the roadside and whipped her severely for her share in his torture. She ran home crying with pain, rage and mortification. Her brother took her part and that night tarred and feathered young Knowlton. Last night one of the brothers, while walking in the street, was shot and instantly killed by some unknown person. The whole community has taken sides and much bloodshed is feared.

WHEELING, May 26.—The Sparlock Hill Jesse James game of thugs and thieves, whose scores of murders and unnumbered thefts were made known by the confession of one of their band last week, are at their old tricks again. Last night, three men, supposed to be members of the party, went to the house of John Carlos, on Little Muddy Run, and called Carlos to the door. When he came out he was seized, gagged and bound. The men then went through the house, taking all they could find, and set fire to the building. One of the men became enraged at Carlos and shot him to death. These thieves got $500 and killed a man at Guyon last Saturday. This makes 23 murders known to have been committed by this gang.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 23.—At the City Hospital this morning Derfus Weaver, colored, an insane patient, attacked two other patients with a knife, seriously injuring them, and attempted to burn the building by setting fire to his bedding. He then attacked Steward Winfrey, of the hospital, who, to save his life, drew a revolver and fired at Weaver, killing him. Winfrey was quite severely cut in the struggle.

EAST SAGINAW, May 20.—The body of Mrs. Julius Guenther, residing at the corner of Webster and Gage streets in this City, was found hanging in her residence at an early hour this morning. Coroner Campbell and officers were notified, who proceeded to the house where they found her husband crazy drunk. He refused to allow the officers admission to the house, and struck at the Coroner with a knife, cutting his hand slightly. He was arrested and locked up on a charge of drunk and disorderly, and will be held until the facts relative to the death of his wife are investigated, there being some suspicions in connection therewith. A jury was impaneled and a partial inquest held, which was adjourned until to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock. Ghenther and wife, who were quite aged, have not lived peaceably together, the old gentleman being a hard drinker and ugly when intoxicated.

ST. LOUIS, May 22.—Mrs. Annie Moss attempted to kill William Bottlon in his bed room at his house last night by shooting him over the right ear. On the arrival of the police all the parties stated that the pistol had been accidentally discharged.

To-day, however, the man admitted the woman had shot her while asleep, as he contemplated leaving her and going back to his father, who he says is Mayor of Dayton, O. The wound is not dangerous, and when Bottlon learned this he denied the woman attempted to kill him and herself and said the shooting was an accident. The woman has been arrested.

ST. LOUIS, May 20.—Michael Schoettel, a clothing dealer, shot and killed himself this morning. He was recovering from a spree. He had threatened to kill himself and wife several times previously.

WABASH, Ind., May 22.—James Stephens an extensive operator in forged paper and property which does not exist, was arrested in this City by an officer of Indianapolis, who has long been in quest of the fellow. Stephens is charged with selling several hundred thousand feet of lumber to Cincinnati and Indianapolis parties, representing that it was lying at railroad stations awaiting shipment. Considerable sums were realized by Stephens in this way, his deals yielding nearly $20,000. When captured he loudly proclaimed his innocence, and the officer was obliged to use force to take him to the jail. Stephens is a married man, and has a family living in Shelby, O.

PORTSMOUTH, O., May 21.—The suspension bridge across the Scioto River fell this morning, while some cattle were crossing. Mrs. S. Fuller with four children were on the bridge at the time; three children were drowned. The bridge cost $40,000.

MILWAUKEE, May 21.—News has reached here of the brutal murder by unknown villains of Mrs. Hopkins-Morgan, the wealthy widow of an eccentric Welshman who settled near Cambria, Columbia County, a quarter of a century ago, where, after years of industry, he amassed considerable property and died. The old man's will left the real estate to his son John, a young man 30 years of age who can neither read nor write, while the personal property, bonds and mortgages, he bequeathed to his widow. This will was bitterly contested but was held valid. Mrs. Morgan lived alone. Recently the capital of some of her securities was paid. It amounted to about $10,000. As no bank was available she kept the money in the house. She was discovered dying Sunday morning in the celler, with her skull crushed. Bloody cleats were lying beside her. The house was ransacked. John is the only heir to his mother's wealth.

LINCOLN, Ill., May 22.—The Grand Jury for the May term of the Circuit Court have returned indictments against J. H. Hall, Wm. Farris and Belle Hall. The latter was immediately arrested and placed in jail. She is a sister of Farris, and was living with Hall as his wife at the time of the Mount Pulaski triple murder—the crime they are charged with in the indictment.

ST. LOUIS, May 22.—J. T. Richardson, local agent of the Indianapolis and St. Louis railway, the Madison County ferry company, and the Venice and Carondelet belt railroad, at Venice, Ill., opposite the northern part of this city, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head in his own house to-night. The discovery by the traveling auditor that he was $6,000 short to the Indianapolis and St. Louis road led to the act. He was 38 years old and left a wife and one child.

VERNON, Tex., May 23.—A cowboy rode into a ranch near here yesterday and without warning shot three times into beds occupied by his comrades, killing one instantly; another is dying. A few hours after the murderer was arrested and jailed. He claims the shooting was accidental.

MILWAUKEE, May 23.—John Schott, a traveling man, became intoxicated with friends a week ago Thursday, and was in the evening at a questionable resort. He was not heard of again till the body was dragged from the river near the house where he was left, with a bullet hole in his breast. Three hundred dollars which he had is missing.

DETROIT, May 23.—At Port Huron this morning, a rowboat upset on the river. Train dispatcher Charles Mooney, baggageman John Ford, and brakeman Thomas McEwan, all of the Chicago & Grand Trunk Railroad, were drowned. The bodies have not yet been recovered.

ATLANTA, May 23.—One month ago Mrs. Charity Ramsey, a fortune teller, was visited by Miss Corinne Cochran, a young lady who had enjoyed a good name, and a man named Waters. They begged the privilege of leaving a child there, promising to pay liberally for its care, for a couple of weeks, until they could get married and find a home elsewhere, where the story of their indiscretion might not follow them. The couple left, and in a short time the man returned, carrying with him a nursing bottle, paregoric and condensed milk. About the 6th of this month the man came back and gave Mrs. Ramsey $7, and asked her if she had given the baby a name. Mrs. Ramsey said she had been calling it George Washington. They married a day or two after and left the City, their present whereabouts not being known. Mrs. Ramsey says that the child died in a spasm, but the jury returned a verdict that death resulted from starvation. Officers are in search of the guilty parents.

NEW YORK, May 23.—John H. Caldwell was sentenced for two years to-day for grand larceny. His wife was employed as a seamstress by Mrs. Montaut, and he compelled her to rob her employer of $750 worth of jewelry under pain of being murdered. The poor woman did his bidding, and he used the proceeds of her theft for a protracted debauch. Sentence on Mrs. Caldwell was suspended. She is the daughter of Rev. William Howard, formerly President of Wells' Female College. Mrs. Caldwell married her husband knowing him to be a drunken scamp, but thought she could reform him. During her first week of married life Caldwell robbed her of $125. He has maintained his reputation for five years.

OAKLAND, May 23.—Lloyd L. Majors was hanged this morning. Last Monday night the condemned man made a desperate attempt to escape. Possessed of great strength, he overpowered the two death watches and the jailer who happened at the moment to be in his cell. Wrenching the keys from the jailer's grasp he dashed through the door across the jail yard to the street. But just as he thought he had succeeded he was encountered by two firemen who had been attracted by the noise. They recognized Majors, and another struggle ensued, so terrible that Majors' arm was broken. Rendered helpless he was conducted back to his cell. From that moment he abandoned hope, and sought consolation in religion. Up to the last moment he professed his innocence of the crime charged. In conversation with J. B. Renowden, brother of the murdered men, he said: "You may draw the life blood from my arm, and with this pen I will write my innocence of all connection of the crime in my own blood." As he spoke he appealed to heaven to witness the truth of his statement.

Lloyd L. Majors was 46 years old, was born near the home of Garfield, in Ohio, graduated at Ann Arbor College in 1870, and began the practice of law, but afterwards joined the Methodist ministry. After preaching several years, he went to the Pacific Coast, and settled in Los Galas, where he became the owner of a hotel. The double murder for which he was executed was committed a year ago. He planned it, leaving the execution, however, to two tools named Jewell and Showers. They were both tried and convicted, but before this all the facts in the case became known and the agency of Majors became known. The murder planned was that of W. P. Renowden, an old man living in a cabin near Los Galas and the purpose was robbery. When Majors' tools went there they found not only Renowden, but a friend named McIntire, both of whom were killed. Majors went there the same night, and set fire to the cabin. He gave Jewell and Showers a bottle of whisky and $5 for the deed.

SHAWNEETOWN, Ill., May 22.—News is received from Elizabethtown that the Harden Court House, with all the records, was consumed by an incendiary fire Monday morning. There has been a vendetta in progress in that County several years, and numerous killings resulted. Finally the law-abiding people took hold of the matter and caused indictments to be found against a large number of these turbulent characters. It is the general belief the Court House was fired for the purpose of destroying the records of these indictments, in order to embarrass proceedings against them.

NEW YORK, May 23.—John Cummings, clerk of the Standard Oil Company, at Long Island City, has been missing since Saturday, with $4,000 which he drew to pay employes. It is stated he is also a heavy defaulter.

WAVERLY, O., May 23.—Laban Stevens, the third man convicted of the murder of Anderson Lackey, near Jackson, O., was hanged here to-day. There was a large crowd in Town, although the execution was private. Stevens made a confession this morning to a relative of the victim, saying he had planned the robbery but not the murder.

NEW YORK, May 24.—A special from St. Johns says: "The French brig "Senorine" went ashore at Grand Banks Friday, and was a total wreck in six minutes. Fifty-three of the passengers and nine of the crew were lost. The "Senorine" was caught in a fog, and the Captain lost his bearings. He was making for this port, going slow, when she struck. The wildest disorder prevailed, officers and crew making for the boats, leaving the passengers to care for themselves. One boat containing 20 passengers and some of the crew was swamped after it got away from the steamer, by the lurching of the steamer. The screams of the women were heartrending. Most of them sank immediately. The men struggled, but only a few succeeded in catching floating spars. The Captain was unable to maintain discipline among the passengers, and but few were able to save themselves. Many clung to the rigging after the first to shock, thinking the vessel would stand the strain and they might be picked up when the fog cleared, but when the vessel went to pieces they were all lost. Only about 20 were saved.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27.—Ex Sen. William Sharon testified yesterday for the first time in the suit brought against him by Miss Hill for divorce-alimony. He denied ever having received $7,500 from the plaintiff for investment. The word "wife" in the letters produced addressed by him to her was a forgery; he never signed the alleged marriage contract, the document was a forgery; he never knew of its existence until he saw it in court; he never proposed marriage in any form to the plaintiff. Sharon then recounted the circumstances of his first meeting with Miss Hill. She called on him to ask his advice about an investment in certain stocks. She called several times subsequently, and as on one occasion the plaintiff did not present some familiarities that passed between them, he offered her $250 a month to live with him. She replied that it was not enough, when he increased the offer to $500, which was silently accepted. From that time he continued to pay the plaintiff that amount monthly.

MILWAUKEE, May 26.—There is great excitement at Oak Creek over the action of the relatives of H. Baldwin, in sawing off his legs when he died last week, to make them fit the coffin. Baldwin was six feet seven inches tall, and when the day of the funeral came it was found the body was too long for the coffin, and a nephew severed the feet from the body with a common saw. While at work he thought Baldwin moved, and he fell in a dead faint. Another relative finished cutting off the limbs. At one time, soon after the funeral, it was thought the nephew would be mobbed by the neighbors.

BELLE PLAIN, Iowa, May 27.—Sam Dunlap shot his wife three times, then cut his throat, failing dead across her body. The woman is still alive, but with no hopes of recovery. The family were very respectable. No cause known for the deed.

NICHOLASVILLE, Ky., May 26.—Beverly Broaddius, a reckless young man, called upon Miss Woods, a belle of the east end of this County, and his English not suiting her she drew a revolver and fired at him four times.

Minor Mention.

Buford L. Dean, of Savannah, shot his brother David, killing him instantly.

The body of a wealthy Englishman named Falkenridge was found in bed at a hotel at Winnepeg, under circumstances indicating murder.

The house of Wm. Hines, near Hutchins, Tex., was blown down by the storm Thursday, and his three-year-old son killed and his wife seriously injured.

Ex-Judge Welcome R. Beebe, the oldest practitioner in the United States District and Circuit Courts, was killed and terribly mangled by the cars at Evona Station, near Plainfield, N. J.

James B. Neal, a New York florist, was awakened by a burglar attempting to enter his bed room. He armed himself with a revolver, stepped into the hall way and shot the intruder, probably fatally. The burglar gave the name of Clarence McCarthy.

In Jackson County, Ga., Asa Shields and Charles Wise, while playing cards, disputed about the amount wagered. Upon being called a liar Shields became greatly infuriated, and with a piece of fence rail crushed in the skull of Wise, the wounded man sinking in death on the spot. The murderer escaped.

While Matthew Henry, 10 years old, and his cousin Lulu Finnigan, 5 years old, were playing in the barn in rear of Shepard's residence, in Woodside, N. J., the boy picked up an old musket which exploded in his hands, the charge striking the girl in the face and tearing away one side of her head. She died almost instantly.

W. N. Osmond, alias Mark Felton, was indicted by the grand jury at Lincoln, Ill., for obtaining money under false pretenses. He is the Chicago detective who worked on both sides of the O. A. Carpenter case, and while in the employ of Carpenter drew large sums of money from Logan County for services claimed to have been rendered.

A detective of Kansas City states that A. H. Sheldon, formerly President of the Blue Spring Milling Company, with $50,000 in his possession, employed two detectives to arrest him and conduct him to a train, where, assuming a complete disguise, he left for New York and sailed for England. The story of his abduction at the instance of his partner is said to be false.

RELIGIOUS BODIES.

DETROIT, May 23.—The seventh meeting of the Missionary Union, having its headquarters at Boston, Hon. J. Warren, of Mercill, Mass., presiding, was held this morning. The annual report fills a large volume of over 100 pages. Three hundred and forty-two thousand, four hundred and forty-three dollars and eighty-nine cents were raised through the year; expenditures, $364,813.56, leaving a deficit of $22,369, a much smaller debt than last year. In Sweden, Germany, France, Spain and Greece are are 1,682 preachers, 1,126 churches and 112,122 members. The year's baptism was 11,716. The great work of the Union in India, Burmah, Assam, among the Telugus, in China, Japan and Africa are 2,434 missionary laborers, 1,126 churches, 112,122 members and 11,706 baptisms. The society has schools, colleges, dispensaries, medical missionaries and skilled mechanics sent out to teach the mechanic arts. The year past was one of extraordinary revivals and great success.

At the afternoon meeting, the constitution was amended, declaring missionaries on foreign fields members of the Missionary Union by virtue of their office. Dr. David Downie, from Telugi, India, spoke of the great success of that mission. Six missionaries baptized 2,222 converts in three hours, with no undue haste. Rev. M. O. Mason, from the Assam mission, spoke of the degradation of the Garo people, and the success of missionary effort. At the evening meeting Dr. J. E. Clough, of the Angola Mission, India, spoke of the great missionary successes in his field.

BALTIMORE, May 23.—In the Methodist Protestant Convention Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Brown, officers of the Woman's Missionary Society, presented a report and memorial. The report of the Committee on Publishing Houses was read.

A telegram from the clerk of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, informed the Convention that the Assembly had adjourned, but that the action of the Convention in Baltimore had been referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

BALTIMORE, May 23.—Bishop Turner presided in the African Methodist Conference. The discussion of the advisability of an union with the British M. E. Church, of Canada, consumed the morning. The Bishops are divided on the subject. The Conference elected Rev. A. L. Scott editor of the Star of Zion.

PITTSBURG, May 24.—In the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, reports of the Presbyteries were presented and held over. Moderator Smiley then announced the standing committees.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23.—In the Methodist Episcopal Conference, the report of the Sunday School Committee, recommending the publication of a Sunday School hymnal was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Freedmen's Aid and work in the South, submitted a number of reports, which were voted upon without discussion. Rev. Dr. Hartsell, chairman, offered an amendment for one report of his committee, which approved the work of the Freedmen's Aid, with a proviso. The amendment is as follows:

Resolved, That we fully indorse the administration of the Freedmen's Aid Society during the last quadrennial. Adopted.

Another report adopted suggested that an appeal be made to the church for $500,000, as a centennial offering to the great work of the Freedmen's Aid Society, and proposed to authorize the Freedmen's Aid Society to make similar efforts in the South to increase the fund.

Report No. 5 declared it unwise to change the name of the Freedmen's Aid Society. Adopted.

The report was then adopted as a whole.

Another report concerning the growth of the Church South was presented. A strong appeal for its adoption was made by Rev. Dr. Hartzell. The Conference voted in favor of the report being printed. Laid over until to-morrow.

The Committee on the State of the Church adopted a resolution to be presented to the General Conference, deploring the keeping open of places of business and drinking saloons and running railroad trains on the Sabbath, and declaring all unnecessary travel on the Sabbath and buying or dealing in Sunday papers, and all forms of pleasure taking on that day to be in violation of the Divine injunction, "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy." The attention of the Conference was also called to the great amount of pernicious literature in circulation.

Judge Reynolds, of the Committee on Judiciary, submitted 21 reports giving legal opinions upon various matters concerning ecclesiastical work, which had been referred at different times to that Committee. The reading, discussion and adoption of these reports occupied the remainder of the session. Adjourned.

SARATOGA, May 23.—In the Presbyterian General Assembly this morning telegraphic greetings were received from the Baptist National Society, Detroit, and a response ordered. The committee of 44 reported on the subject of reduced representation, which was adopted. The report of the Joint Committee on Home Missions and Freedmen, recommending concerted action was adopted. The report of the Standing Committee on Beneficence was also submitted, urging greater contributions for the proper support of various boards in promoting the work of the Church. Rev. Dr. Stratton, of Natchez, Corresponding delegate of the Presbyterian Church South, took formal farewell of the Assembly, being summoned home by critical illness in his family. The Committee on Co-operation with the Southern Church, made a report, fully in sympathy with the fraternal relations now existing between the two bodies. Rev. Dr. Bingham reported on judicial commissions. Ephraim Banning submitted a minority report. Pending discussion, recess.

Rev. Dr. Jas. P. McGraw submitted the report of the standing Committee on Temperance. The resolutions adopted against intemperance and the liquor traffic recommend that all Presbyteries appoint committees on temperance; that the Presbytery Committee arrange for holding a Temperance Institute; that ministers be urged to preach on the subject of temperance; that laws for the suppression of the traffic in liquor should be enforced; commending the action of four States in legislating to collect the damages of alcohol; that the Assembly gratefully recognizes the power of the press, both religious and secular, as stimulating to the right action on this subject, and recommends an increased use of this agency in meeting local issues and in the dissemination of facts and principles which are suited to advance the cause.

PHILADELPHIA, May 26.—The Methodist Episcopal Conference this morning amended the report from the committee to redistrict General Conference districts, so that the present number (12) was increased to 13. There was an acrimonious debate on the proposition in the report of the Committee on Co-operation in church work, which provides that at each General Conference every minister be asked a series of questions, and that his answers be published in the church manual. The report was rejected by a large vote. The report of the Committee was adopted with the following amendment:

"*Resolved*, That a commission be appointed to consider the subject of consolidating and unifying benevolent societies and devise a plan, and report to the next General Conference."

PHILADELPHIA, May 27.—The following are recommended by the M. E. General Conference to be elected Trustees of the M. E. Church for the term to expire in 1892: Luke Hitchcock, Charles W. Ketcham and Earl Cranston, Messrs. M. P. Hagan, W. Cumbach and P. M. Bigney. The report was accepted. The report of the Committee on Episcopacy recommends the establishment of Episcopal residence at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Atlantic, New Orleans, or Austin, Des Moines, Denver, and Buffalo. A motion was made to substitute Topeka for Buffalo.

Episcopal residences were finally fixed a the following places: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis or Green Castle, San Francisco or vicinity, Minneapolis, New Orleans or Austin, Atlanta, Topeka or vicinity, Buffalo and Denver.

DETROIT, May 26.—The meeting of the home mission society, having the United States for its territory, commenced this forenoon. The great church was crowded, showing the interest in the long continued meetings. Dr. H. L. Morehouse, Secretary, read extracts from the report. The receipts were the largest in the society's history—$401,428. The society has workers among the Americans, Germans, Danes, Scandinavians, French, Mexicans, Chinese, Welsh and negroes; 644 missionaries, and 145 churches organized. The society has 1,509 churches, 748 Sunday schools, 17 colleges, universities, or institutes, and 10 incorporated in the South for freedmen and Indians. These have school property valued at over $600,000. The scholars number 2,828. There are 400 students for the ministry and 82 teachers.

LITIZ, Pa., May 21.—The triennial synod of the Moravian Church of this province convened to-day. The opening services were conduc